LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICE

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First Welsh Summer School

Sir Noel Curtis-Bennett at Aberystwyth

THE decision to hold two summer schools for England and Wales was a bold step. Experience of the Aberystwyth School proves conclusively that it was a wise decision, for the school was improved socially by the greater social intercourse among students and educationally by the greater informality about the lectures and discussions.

The school was given a fine start when it was opened at dinner on July 11 by Sir Noel Curtis-Bennett, K.C.V.O., of the Treasury. The president of the Association, Mr. W. E. Lloyd, presided at the opening dinner.

In opening the proceedings the president traced the development of the Association's educational work from small beginnings in examining work, showing how the correspondence institute, loans and scholarships schemes, a lending library and other activities had been added to the educational work. The president expressed the view that the summer schools were one of the finest developments on this side of the Association's work, and mentioned the decision to reduce the numbers attending each school by organising two schools, for England and Wales. After welcoming the Association's guests, the president introduced Sir Noel Curtis-Bennett by referring to some of his many activities, particularly those connected with helping the younger sections of the community, and expressed the opinion that Sir Noel's record was such that he was the ideal person to encourage young students in their studies by opening the school.

Sir Noel, who was received with applause, said that during the three years he was in Wales in charge of the Distress Fund he had realised something which would remain with him all his life.

"That is," he explained, "that the faith and the courage of the Welsh people who have stood up against unemployment for years is something which is tremendously fine and unequalled by any people in the world." (Applause.)

He was glad to be with them, also, in order to do anything he could to help such a great organization as N.A.L.G.O. The educational policy they had adopted was an excellent one and he admired the strides which had been made to get diplomas for public administration an agreed thing in the universities.

It was pleasing, he continued, that the summer schools were held in university towns, because those members who were not fortunate enough to have had college education were given an opportunity to absorb some of the fine spirit of 'Varsity life.

"It had been said," went on Sir Noel, "and rightly so, that this country possesses the finest civil service in the world, and that applies equally to the local administrators of this country." The most important thing, however, about service is to render it also when it is not paid for and to serve others as much as possible. The greatest thing in life is not what we get out of it, but what we put into it.

He considered the National Playing Fields Association a great movement for the youth of the country, and the decision to utilize Memorial Funds for playing fields a fitting memorial to King George. This was the biggest chance that local authorities had ever had to provide playing fields and sports facilities, which would be a means of producing a healthy and happy nation. In conclusion, he paid a high tribute to N.A.L.G.O., when he said it was one of the greatest associations for good in the land.

Sir Noel then formally opened the school.

Mr. J. Chaston, chairman of the Association's Education Committee, expressed the Association's thanks to Sir Noel for opening the school and for giving such a brilliant and inspiring address, stating that his presence typified the good relationship that existed between the civil service and the local government officers. He took the opportunity of drawing attention to two of the most important recent developments in the Association's educational work, namely, the efforts to establish area education committees and the strides area education committees and the strides which had been made in securing the recognition of public administration as a suitable subject for study in the universities by the establishment of diplomas in public administration. He also emphasized the real significance of the educational work of the Association by showing that it was concerned not only with the conditions of service of its members, but also with the quality of the service which they render to the public. The quality of public administration can only be maintained and improved by securing the right type of education for all local government officers.

Mr. Ivor Evans, clerk to the Cardiganshire County Council, made a short but brilliant speech welcoming the school to Wales, and expressed some surprise that the Association had held six summer schools at Oxford and Cambridge before venturing to hold a school in the Principality.

Mr. C. A. W. Roberts, vice-chairman of the Education Committee, proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Ivor Evans for his cordial welcome to Wales, and expressed the belief that in such pleasant surroundings students were going to enjoy one of the most successful of summer schools.

The president then proposed that those assembled at the opening dinner should express their thanks to all who had helped to make the summer school possible, referring particularly to the willingness of the Alexandra Hall and University College authorities to co-operate and to the helpfulness of the Cardiganshire Branch of the Association. The opening dinner was concluded by the president's proposal being carried with enthusiasm.

SIR NOEL CURTIS-BENNETT

Sir Lynden Macassey at Cambridge

ON Saturday, July 18, the N.A.L.G.O. Summer School held at Selwyn College, Cambridge, was opened at dinner in the presence of a distinguished company. The President of the Association—Mr. W. E. Lloyd (Borough Treasurer, Hampstead)—presided.

After being introduced by the president, Sir Lynden Macassey, leader of the Parliamentary Bar, opened the school in a speech, during the course of which he remarked that he had always been of the opinion that the success of a service like the local government service lies in a practical scheme for training its members in the science and art and technique of their profession. **"I look forward to the time when every local government authority will give what is known in the University as 'sabbatical leave' to their officers, with no loss of pay or holiday, so that they can attend schools that go on, not for a week only, but continually and progressively, so enabling local government officers to get a chance of knowing more about their job,"** declared Sir Lynden.

"There is nothing exceptional in this," he added, "it is done in the Army and the Navy. Officers, with pay and during their official time, are given opportunities of going to schools of instruction in their special subject."

Sir Lynden pointed out that the great local government service, although it originally formed only part of the local machinery of administration, had long since ceased to discharge that as its main function. It was now a broad part of the national machinery of government.

The Government freely unloaded burdens on the devoted shoulders of members of the local government service. "I am bold enough to say that if the local government officials of this country ceased to exist, the whole system of national administration would break down," declared Sir Lynden. "Of that there is no doubt whatsoever." The burdens of new legislation and of administration made it essential that local government officers should be thoroughly qualified, and because he appreciated the magnitude of these burdens he was pleased to be associated with the school. Sir Lynden concluded by formally declaring the school open.

The Chairman of the Education Committee, Mr. J. Chaston (Clerk to Kettering Urban District Council) expressed thanks to Sir Lynden. The Master of Selwyn College, the Mayor of Cambridge, and the Chairman of the Cambridgeshire County Council also extended a welcome.

The vice-chairman of the Education Committee, Mr. C. A. W. Roberts, thanked those who had welcomed the school.

In earlier days, he mentioned, men drifted into local government service. Now it was a career which was deliberately chosen.

Thanks to the college authorities, to the general secretary, and the education secretary were voiced by the president, who concluded the proceedings.

SIR LYNDEN MACASSEY

St. Andrews School the Best Yet

THE sixth of our summer schools at St. Andrews was in many respects the best of the lot. It was the best attended, having an enrolment of forty-four students. For the first time there were representatives of local authorities present.

LORD PROVOST NIMMO

The Inaugural Dinner

At the inaugural dinner the president, Mr. W. E. Lloyd, presided. The object of the school, he said, was to inculcate a deeper knowledge and appreciation of the foundation, structure, history and development of local government. The foundation of local government they could not alter, but the structure was changing constantly. History would enable them to benefit by experience and the main object of the Association was the development of the service.

In declaring the school open, Lord Provost Nimmo of Perth said he started as a clerk in the local government service in Perth and later became the treasurer. He had thus had a chance to study the questions at issue from both sides. As treasurer, one of his tasks was to deal with applications for increases in salary from the clerical staff, and he was surprised to find that Perth had no system of classification and grading under which they could grant periodical increases. They evolved a scheme which was put into operation and was working satisfactorily, and it was through N.A.L.G.O. they were able to get a solution of what had been a difficult problem. The Association did not exist solely for the purpose of getting better terms from employers, but the employer had a duty to the employed to see that the conditions of service were satisfactory to both sides.

Two Main Questions

Mr. John Chaston, in the course of an interesting address, said that the attention of the Association was at present focused upon two main questions—the recommendations of the Hadow Departmental Committee on the recruitment, qualifications, training, and promotion of local government officers, and the formation by the Association of area education committees throughout the whole of Great Britain.

In moving votes of thanks, Mr. J. Henderson Stewart, M.P., jocularly remarked that he was learning as the years passed that N.A.L.G.O. was the earliest modern example of collective security, and that the members were prepared to apply sanctions at any particular moment in order to force the benighted local authorities into giving them the conditions they desired.

The Prizewinners

Lady Provost Nimmo handed over the following prizes: To Mr. W. H. Roberts, Edinburgh, prize of £10 on the results of the examination of the Royal Sanitary Association of Scotland; Mr. J. K. Watson, Fife, prize £10 on the results of the examination for the Poor Law Diploma of Scotland; and the J. E. Highton prizes for essay competition (Class I) to Mr. John N. Bateman, Alva and (Class II) to Mr. Robert Nixon, B.L., Glasgow.

George Montagu Harris, O.B.E., M.A.

George Montagu Harris, O.B.E., M.A., Barrister-at-Law, the new president of the International Union of Local Authorities, was born at Torquay on November 26, 1868 and is the son of the Rev. Prebendary G. C. Harris of Toronto. He was educated at Newton Abbot, Winchester and New College, Oxford, and was called to the Bar in 1893. In 1895 and 1896, he stood as Liberal candidate for the South St. Pancras division. He has a long record of public service, being secretary of the County Councils Association from 1902 to 1919; acting clerk of the peace and county council for East Sussex, 1915-19; was a member of the Maclean Committee's local government sub-committee in 1917; head of the foreign branch of the Intelligence Division, Ministry of Health, 1919-33; president of the Town Planning Institute, 1927-28; secretary of the Greater London Regional Planning Committee, 1927-33. He has been a member of the council of the Garden City Association almost from its commencement, and is one of the founders of the International Garden City Association, having been chairman of the council for 10 years. For some time past he has been a member of the permanent bureau of the International Union of Local Authorities, being organizing secretary of the London Congress in 1932 and a vice-president since 1933. Last year he was appointed research lecturer in Public Administration at Oxford University, and his election this year to the presidency of the International Union of Local Authorities is a fitting tribute to one who has selflessly devoted the whole of his energies to the betterment of public administration for close on 40 years.

International Congress of Local Authorities

Interesting Debates at Berlin

Englishman as New President

IN accordance with the decision given by the National Executive Council at its March meeting, Mr. W. E. Lloyd, Mr. P. H. Harrold, and the general secretary attended the Sixth International Congress of Local Authorities at Berlin and Munich from June 8 to 13, at which twenty-five countries were represented by close on three hundred delegates.

They arrived in Berlin on Friday evening, June 5. On Saturday, June 6, there were two separate round-table conferences for the discussion of the training and recruitment of local government officers. On Sunday, June 7, there was an official opening of the exhibition, "The German Community," organised by the German Union of Local Authorities, and the Exhibition and Fair Office of the City of Berlin. At 2 p.m. on that day the round-table conference was continued, and this went on until 8 p.m., when a meeting of the Permanent Bureau of the International Union of Local Authorities was held.

Congress proper opened on Monday, June 8, and in opening the Congress Dr. W. Frick, Minister of the Interior, said: **"As German Reich Minister, it is a cause of especial satisfaction to me that Germany has the honour and privilege this year of acting as host to the International Communal Congress. I need not assure you that we regard it as our foremost duty to receive our foreign guests with genuine German hospitality, and that we are really glad to be able to provide them with a direct knowledge of the new Germany."** Congress that day devoted itself to a report and a debate on the "Status of Communal Science in Theory and Research." The report on this subject was presented by Dr. Jeserich, who is president of the local government section of the German Government. The Congress session lasted until 4.30 p.m., when it was adjourned until the following day.

Shortly after 4.30 another round-table conference was held on training.

Impressive Cultural Efforts

On Tuesday, June 9 Congress continued, and the theme discussed was "A Campaign against Unemployment by the Local Authorities." Two general reports were presented—one by Lord Mayor Strölin of Stuttgart, and the other by Professor John Hilton, of Cambridge University. The debate continued on Wednesday, June 10, and at the closing session of this part of the Congress the final report on this theme was given. The papers presented contained reviews of what each country was doing to combat unemployment, and described the various methods adopted. The debates on the papers were maintained at this level; there was no discussion at all on administrative details, which, perhaps, might have been a little more interesting to the executive officers of local authorities. Although it was originally intended that the papers and discussions should be confined to what local authorities are doing to relieve unemployment, it was imposisble to leave out of the story what the various Governments were doing, particularly in the case of those countries where it is not easy to define the functions of the local and central authorities.

Combating Unemployment

On Thursday, June 11, there was an inspection of municipal organisation and an excursion to Potsdam. On this day, too, there was an official luncheon and a reception. Thursday night was spent travelling from Berlin to Munich, where on Friday, June 12, the Congress was continued, after an official reception by the Lord Mayor of Munich in the Congress Hall of the German Museum. The second theme, "The Cultural Activities of the Local Authorities," was debated. Here, again, there were reports from each country, together with a general report presented by Lord Mayor Fiehler and Professor Dr. von Poelje. The sum total of the efforts being made to provide cultural facilities in different parts of the world is impressive, but there are, however, differences of temperament and in the systems of government which must make it difficult to provide anything like a uniform effort in all countries. What did appear to emerge from the discussions, particularly relating to our own country, is the complete absence of official measurement of the need for developments of this kind; a lack of central co-ordination; and the need for useful advice and help from any one particular authority. **Here is one of the problems which concerns us all, and some collective effort should be made to guide local authorities in Britain. We should not be left to find out each for ourselves exactly what others are doing.**

There appears to be very little doubt anywhere that the problem of the future is more related to leisure than to work, and the papers which were read and the discussions which followed revealed the intense human interest which is being displayed in the subjects, and made this part of the Congress well worth while. Incidentally, the education value of listening to speakers of so many different countries in the Congress chamber was of real value.

A Real Education

Another factor which added to the importance of the visit was the constant association of the visitors from other countries. Much valuable knowledge was gained in this way, particularly from the Americans, with whom the Association's representatives were constantly exchanging opinions on and experiences in local government and public administration. The informal discussions which took place on the recruitment, training, and status generally of the public officials were especially valuable.

The whole of the Congress was impressive; it was a real education to be there, and a really useful purpose has been served by the exchange of views, experiences, and methods, by the representatives of so many countries, many of whom took full advantage of the presence of Messrs. Lloyd, Harrold, and Hill to understand something of our system of local government, and particularly about N.A.L.G.O.

It is especially pleasing to report that Mr. G. Montagu Harris, O.B.E., was unanimously elected President of the International Union of Local Authorities. He was elected to this position following the death of Mr. F. M. Wibaut, of Holland.

Causerie

511 Applicants for Collector's Position

AFTER three hours' deliberation on June 15 the finance committee of the Rhondda Urban District Council drew up a short list of 21 from 511 applicants for four posts as slot-meter collectors under the authority. Applications were confined to residents of the Rhondda not exceeding the age of 45. The salary attached to each of the four posts is £156, rising by annual increments of £6 10s. to £182. Of those on the short list 18 are described as being unemployed.

London Fire Alarm Which Almost Thinks

A FIRE alarm which almost thinks is to replace the familiar box in the London Fire Brigade area. It watches itself, instantly reporting all electrical defects and automatically repairing them. If a fire-alarm box and pillar are accidentally felled, the brigade is not turned out, as now. The box reports the injury to the station. Within three seconds of operation this is what happens at the fire station. Box code number punched in a tape, timed, and dated. Location appears in luminous letters on a panel. All station bells ring, doors open for departure of engines. Traffic lights, except those on fire-engines' route, set at danger. Stop watch ticks out fractions of seconds till first fire-engine to respond stops it.

Weather Variations

A FORMER Bolton man, Mr. K. M. Fogg, who is a son of the well-known referee, Mr. A. E. Fogg, and is a probation officer at Croydon, has received a letter which has been passed on to him by Messrs. Frost, Snow, and Winter, who are all members of the Croydon Corporation staff.

The letter was sent by a youth Mr. Fogg had helped. The youth forgot Mr. Fogg's name, but remembered that it was connected with the weather, and addressed the letter to "Mr. Frost, Town Hall, Croydon." Mr. Frost, seeing that the letter was not intended for him, passed it on to Mr. Snow, who in turn sent it to Mr. Winter. Eventually it reached Mr. Fogg.—(*"Manchester Guardian," July* 15, 1936.)

(*Continued from next column.*)

that it has been neglected, but it is raining very hard now and it is quite late. I don't know whether I can get anybody at the city stables, but I can assure you that it will be attended to in the morning." "That's just it," she retorted. "This hard rain has washed it down in the sewer, and now I never will know how long this new-fangled city government neglects its business."—*Louis Brownlow, former city manager, Petersburg, Virginia, and Knoxville, Tennessee.*—(*"Public Management," June,* 1936.)

Foreign News

Culled from Overseas Sources

M.P.s and Local Government

AN unusual event in the history of the Waikato County Council occurred at the last meeting, when a visit was paid by two Members of Parliament, who were carrying out the behest of the Prime Minister by getting into personal touch with the local bodies of their districts and offering their co-operation in any matter in which they could be of assistance.—(*"Board and Council," New Zealand.*)

Conditions in Belgium

IN accordance with agreements, the wages and salaries of public servants in Belgium were increased by five per cent on April 1, 1936. The increase is to take effect as from January 1, 1936, and the question of the payment of arrears for the first three months of the year will shortly be taken up by the government.

From May 1, 1936, pensions granted under the social insurance legislation have also been increased by five per cent.—(*Extract from "Industrial and Labour Information."*)

Business Man's Conscience

AN alderman of Montreal took exception to a circumstance in connection with "Clean Up Week," which was widely boosted through posters all over the metropolis.

To co-operate with the city's plan to induce citizens to beautify their surroundings, and at the same time find odd jobs for the unemployed, a local firm manufacturing a widely known cleanser distributed gaily-hued badges bearing the words "Clean Up Week" and the picture of a busy little cleaner. The alderman scanned the badge, and on the reverse side found the imprint of the lithographers—a printing firm in Chicago, Ill.

"So that's how we're going to give employment to the jobless in Montreal," remarked the alderman, "by having Clean Up Week badges lithographed in Chicago! A fine idea, when we have printers and lithographers in Montreal and many of them unemployed."—(*"The Municipal Review of Canada," June,* 1936.)

Dead Cats and New-Fangled Government

I REMEMBER being awakened late at night in Petersburg. The rain was pouring down, torrents. I went to the telephone and a woman's voice asked, "Is this the city manager?" I replied that it was. "Well," she said, "there has been a dead cat lying in the street in front of my house for the last four days, and the city has done nothing about it." And I asked, "Well, madam, did you telephone the police department?" "Certainly not," she replied. "Did you telephone the street-cleaning department?" I continued. She said, "Certainly not, I did nothing of the kind." And I said, "Well, I am sorry

(*Continued in previous column.*)

What You Think

Our Readers' Opinions

Correspondence is invited, but the Editor cannot accept responsibility for the views expressed on this page. No letter will be published unless accompanied by the name and address of the sender, but a nom de plume may be sent for publication. The Editor wishes to devote space to all the letters which he receives for publication, but he cannot do this unless correspondents will make their letters "short and sweet." He reserves to himself the right to shorten letters, so as to publish more of all rather than much of a few.

SALARY SCALES

June 23, 1936.

SIR,—I was very interested to read the topical article on salary scales printed on page 526 of the June issue of LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICE. The writer omits, however, one very important approach to the question.

Whatever the class of authority or the nature of the work upon which the officer is engaged, there should be proposed a definite minimum scale to enable the officer to maintain a satisfactory standard of living.

It is reasonable to suppose that officers doing more skilled and responsible work should receive a higher rate of pay, but it is essential that all officers should receive adequate pay, and it is this side of the question which should be borne in mind when the subject is first approached.

Yours, etc.,

IVAN B. BROWN.

18, Elmsleigh Drive,
Leigh-on-Sea, Essex.

SUPERANNUATION

SIR,—The beginning of a new financial year once again reminds me of an anomaly in superannuation payments which must affect thousands of your members. To take a concrete instance, in my own department with a staff of six salaried employees, one pays three per cent, two three and a half per cent, one four per cent, and myself and another five per cent of our salaries to the superannuation fund. When we remember that should we continue to pay into the fund up to the age of sixty-five, the men paying five per cent will not receive as high a pension as the men who pay only three and three and a half per cent, the position appears ridiculous.

Since this position must obtain in thousands of cases, I suggest the N.A.L.G.O. should make an effort to have all payments to the superannuation fund averaged at, say, four per cent.

Yours faithfully,

ZELUS.

June 9, 1936.

Aggregation of Civil Service and Local Government Service for Superannuation Purposes

By THE LEGAL SECRETARY

THERE have recently been issued the Local Government and Civil Service (Superannuation) Rules (S.R.O.1936. No. 651), made by the Treasury under Section 9 of the Superannuation Act, 1935, for regulating the superannuation benefits of persons who transfer from the local government service to the civil service and vice versa. These Rules are of considerable complexity, and it is only possible to deal with the broad principles in these columns. For details reference should be made to the Rules themselves. Their importance, however, lies in the fact that they constitute an important step in bringing into close relationship the local government service and the civil service.

Section 9 of the Superannuation Act, 1935, empowered the Treasury after consultation with the Minister of Health and the Secretary of State for Scotland to make rules for regulating the superannuation benefits of persons who might transfer from one service to the other, and to make provision for such modifications on the application to such persons of the superannuation enactments pertaining to the civil service or to the particular local authority under which any officer might be serving immediately before his transfer as might be necessary. The draft rules were considered by a Joint Superannuation Committee consisting of representatives of the Association of Municipal Corporations, the County Councils Association, the Urban District Councils Association, the Rural District Councils Association, the Metropolitan Boroughs Standing Joint Committee and the National Association of Local Government Officers who submitted to the Treasury a detailed memorandum containing certain suggestions for their improvement most of which have been embodied in the Rules in their final form.

The Rules follow in general the principle first laid down in the Rules issued under Section 51 of the Unemployment Assistance Act, 1934. On ultimate retirement a person becomes entitled in certain circumstances to two pensions, the one from the Treasury in accordance with his period of service as an established civil servant and the other from the local authority with whom he last served in accordance with his pensionable local authority service under the superannuation enactment applying to that authority.

Part I of the Rules contains the short title, definitions and the provisions as to the application and construction of the Rules. It is important to note, however, that Rule 3 limits the application of the Rules to local authorities to whom, at their request, the Treasury have directed that they shall apply. Rule 5 enables the Minister of Health (or the Secretary of State for Scotland in the case of a Scottish Local Authority) on a reference from either party to determine any dispute arising between an officer and a local authority as to his right to payment under the Rules.

Part II deals with the superannuation rights of an officer who transfers from pensionable service under a local authority, with the consent of that authority to an established post in the civil service. The definition of "officer" in Rule 6 confines the application of the Rules to an officer who enters the civil service immediately after leaving the local government service and as respects whom it is certified to the Treasury on his appointment that he was appointed either on account of his special qualifications or on the recommendation of a selection board, his local government service being a material factor in his selection. It would appear that "special qualifications" is not confined to professional qualification. The Rules moreover do not apply to an officer who is appointed to the Unemployment Assistance Board or to an officer to whom Section 11 (9) of the Mental Treatment Act, 1930, applies.

Rule 7 provides that an officer who, on ceasing to be in the service of a local authority, has a right to a return of his superannuation contributions, may relinquish that right by giving written notice to the local authority within one month after his appointment to the civil service. If he does not relinquish his right, his prior pensionable local authority service will not be reckonable under the Rules. If he dies, however, before the expiration of the month, and the Treasury are satisfied that he intended to give notice, they may waive the necessity for such notice. A local authority receiving any such notice must immediately inform the department of the civil service in which the officer is employed. This rule will apply to Acts such as the Local Government and Other Officers' Superannuation Act, 1922, which gives a right to a return of contributions on voluntary resignation, but will not apply to the Poor Law Officers' Superannuation Act, 1896, or the Asylums Officers' Superannuation Act, 1909, or that Act as modified by the Asylums and Certified Institutions (Officers Pensions) Act, 1918, which do not confer such a right.

Rule 8 provides that when an officer retires from the civil service all his pensionable local authority service, with certain exceptions, will rank in calculating the minimum period required to qualify for a civil service pension, or in the event of death, for a gratuity to the officers' legal personal representatives. Such pensionable local authority service, however, will not be reckonable in assessing the amount of his civil service pension, which will be calculated entirely on the number of completed years of his service as an established civil servant. No account, however, is to be taken in reckoning the qualifying period of any service in respect of which the officer has exercised his right to a return of superannuation contributions or has already obtained a superannuation allowance or of any service which has been reckoned in calculating a compensation allowance for loss of a whole-time appointment or two or more part-time appointments involving in the aggregate whole time service.

By Rule 9, if the officer, on retiring from the civil service, is qualified for a pension from the Treasury, he will, at the same time, become entitled to a pension from the local authority under whom he was serving immediately prior to his transfer to the civil service. This latter pension will be based on his years of pensionable local authority service (however few they may be) and will be calculated on his pensionable emoluments at the date of such transfer in accordance with the provisions of the particular superannuation enactment to which he was subject while in the service of that local authority. Special provisions are included in this Rule for calculating the pension of officers subject at the date of transfer to (i) the Local Government and Other Officers' Superannuation Act, 1922, or that Act as modified by Section 124 of the Local Government Act, 1929, or Section 7 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act, 1929; (ii) the Fire Brigade Pensions Acts, 1925 and 1929; (iii) any other local superannuation enactment under which an officer becomes entitled on retirement to an annuity during life with or without an additional lump sum payment or (iv) a local superannuation enactment conferring upon the local authority a discretionary right to grant pensions to officers on retirement, e.g., the Superannuation (Metropolis) Act, 1866. It should be noted that the Rules preserve the power conferred upon a local authority of increasing the superannuation allowance, e.g., Section 16 (1) of the Act of 1922 or Section 22 (2) of the Act of 1925. But in the case of the former Act the local authority must pass the resolution to increase the rate for non-contributing service before or within six months after his appointment to the civil service. Furthermore, an officer whose contributing service amounted to less than 10 years will be entitled to a superannuation allowance calculated at the full rate appropriate to contributing service in respect of those years despite any provisions such as Section 17 of the Local Government and Other Officers' Superannuation Act, 1922.

Rule 10 contains administrative provisions whereby on the appointment of the officer to the civil service the local authority are to record in their minutes and notify to the civil service department and to the officer particulars of his pensionable local authority service and of his pensionable emoluments. Furthermore, on the officer's retirement from or death in the civil service, the department in which he served must notify the fact to the local authority and in the former case must also furnish them with particulars as to any allowance granted by the Treasury.

Rule 11 provides that contributions will be returnable to the officer by the local authority where the officer retires from the civil service with an allowance under Section 6 of the Superannuation Act, 1909 (abolition of office, etc.) or Section 2 of the Superannuation Act, 1887 (inefficiency).

Under the Superannuation Acts applying to the civil service, where a civil servant retires with a superannuation allowance, and dies before he has received by way of annuity a lump sum an amount equal to his annual salary and emoluments, the Treasury may grant a gratuity equal to the deficiency to his legal personal representatives. Rule 12 modifies the Acts so as to limit the gratuity which may be paid by the Treasury to the amount by which the sums received by the officer by way of superannuation allowance, both from the Treasury and the local authority, fall short of his annual salary and emoluments.

Rule 13 preserves the rights of local authorities to receive arrears of contributions and unpaid instalments of sums payable for the purpose of acquiring superannuation rights.

Rule 14 contains the provisions as to the fund to which sums payable by a local authority under Part II of the Rules are to be charged.

Part III of the Rules contains the provisions applicable to established civil servants who transfer to pensionable appointments under local authorities and those provisions follow the principles outlined in Part II with the necessary modifications.

National Executive Council

THE summer meeting of the National Executive Council was held at the headquarters of the Association on Saturday, July 18, under the chairmanship of Mr. W. W. Armitage. The following members were present:

Messrs. H. Allen, H. J. Altoun, A. G. M. Archibald, J. T. Baker, A. G. Bolton, T. W. Bottomley, J. Brown, G. W. Coster, F. E. Cox, A. B. Day, T. Freeman, A. A. Garrard, V. Grainger, F. W. Greenhalgh, D. L. Griffiths, F. H. Harrod, P. H. Harrold, R. E. Heron, G. Llewellyn, W. E. Lloyd, F. V. Merriman, C. J. Newman, T. Nolan, A. Denton Ogden, D. J. Parry, A. Pinches, E. L. Riley, C. A. W. Roberts, C. S. Robinson, J. W. Singleton, Miss I. Stansfield, Messrs. G. A Stone, H. Taylor, J. W. Vince, J. H. Warren, W. H. Whinnerah, E. G. Whitney, J. W. Wilkinson, W. Wilson, Miss L. H. Wooldridge, Mr. L. Worden.

Apologies for their inability to be present were received from Messrs E. F. Bacon, J. Chaston, A. J. Gould, E. J. Stead, F. J. Willett, G. S. Fraser, J. L. Holland, and L. E. Rumsey.

The following were appointed to represent the Association on the various committees of the International Union of Local Authorities:

Full Committee: Mr. W. W. Armitage, Mr. G. W. Coster, M.B.E., Mr. F. J. Willett, Mr. W. E. Lloyd, Mr. P. H. Harrold, General Secretary. **Standing Committee for Great Britain:** Mr. P. H. Harrold, General Secretary. **Permanent Bureau:** General Secretary.

A very interesting report on their visit to Berlin and Munich in connexion with the congress of the International Union was submitted by Mr. W. E. Lloyd, Mr. P. H. Harrold, and the general secretary. (Note: a summary of this report appears on page 565.) The council heartily congratulated the general secretary on his appointment to membership of the Joint University Council for Social Studies and Public Administration.

The reports of the committees were then considered and adopted. Mr. J. W. Wilkinson and Mr. H. Allen were appointed chairman and vice-chairman respectively of the Service Conditions and Organization Committee. In submitting the report of that committee, Mr. J. W. Wilkinson stated that the organizing secretary would collaborate with the Civil Service Equal Pay Committee in carrying out the decision of the annual conference relating to equality of opportunity for men and women and equal pay for equal work. Conference resolutions relating to the employment of married women by local authorities would be sent to the branches with a request that they should intimate to headquarters whether they wished any local action to be taken to implement them. It was also decided to send the resolution relating to evening meetings to all local authorities' associations, the Ministry of Health, and to the Scottish office, whilst the resolution relating to distressed areas would, in addition to being sent to these bodies, be communicated to the Prime Minister and to the Minister of Labour.

Mr. J. W. Wilkinson and the organizing secretary were appointed to represent the Association on the National Industrial Alliance for the year 1936-37.

Cost-of-Living Index Advisory Committee

The committee also reported that in the House of Commons on May 28, 1936, Mr. Ernest Brown, the Minister of Labour, announced the appointment of a committee to advise the Minister of Labour as to the methods to be adopted in the collection of information by means of family budgets, showing the approximate average weekly expenditure of working-class families, on the items which should be taken into account in the construction of index numbers designed to measure the percentage changes from month to month in the cost of maintaining a present-day standard of living.

The members of the committee are:

Mr. F. W. Leggett, C.B., Principal Assistant Secretary, Ministry of Labour (Chairman); Mr. J. N. Beckett, Assistant Secretary, Ministry of Health; Mr. F. J. Blakemore, O.B.E., J.P., Past President of the National Chamber of Trade; Professor A. L. Bowley, Sc.D., F.B.A., Professor of Statistics, University of London; Mr. H. Crow, O.B.E., Principal, Scottish Office; Mrs. W. Y. Darling, wife of Councillor W. Y. Darling, Edinburgh; Mrs. C. S. Ganley, J.P., L.C.C., a member of the Management Committee of the London Co-Operative Society; Mr. J. Hallsworth, representing the Trades Union Congress General Council; Dr. J. M. Hamill, O.B.E., M.D., D.Sc., Senior Medical Officer, Ministry of Health; Mr. C. T. Houghton, Assistant Secretary, Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries; Mr. W. A. B. Iliff, M.B.E., Assistant Secretary, Ministry of Labour, Northern Ireland; Mr. D. Caradog Jones, M.A., Lecturer in Social Statistics, University of Liverpool and Director of the Social Survey of Merseyside; Mr. Kenelm Kerr, O.B.E., representing the National Confederation of Employers' Organisations; Mr. E. C. Ramsbottom, O.B.E., Director of Statistics, Ministry of Labour.

The secretary to the committee will be Mr. J. G. Cannell.

It had been ascertained that the committee would probably not take oral evidence, but it was decided to send in a memorandum to be approved by the chairman and vice-chairman of the committee to the Cost-of-Living Index Advisory Committee so that the Association's point of view could be taken into consideration during the deliberations of that committee.

Whitleyism

On the question of Whitleyism, the Service Conditions and Organisation Committee reported that the Standing Conference of Joint Councils was being reconstituted under the title of the National Whitley Council for local authorities, professional, technical, administrative, and clerical services. The first meeting of the new council will be held on September 18 next, for the purpose of appointing the officers under the new constitution. Progress was also reported from the North-Eastern, West Midland, and Scottish districts. In the West Midland district a conference of trade union representatives was held on June 16, when N.A.L.G.O., the National Union of General and Municipal Workers and the National Union of Public Employees were represented. At the conference the following resolutions were passed:

(a) to suggest that the Employers' side of the Standing Conference should be advised to approach the Lord Mayor of Birmingham by deputation, and invite him to call a conference of local authorities in the West Midland area; and

(b) that as it was considered that a provincial council without Birmingham could not succeed, the N.A.L.G.O. representatives should be asked to seek the co-operation of the Birmingham Municipal Officers' Guild.

It was also agreed that if the Lord Mayor of Birmingham would not call a conference, the Mayor of Wolverhampton should be approached, with a request that he would do so.

The Eastern District Committee has recently met the Whitleyism Sub-committee, and as a result of the joint meeting the following resolution was passed:

"That this meeting reaffirms its belief in the principles of Whitleyism, and pledges its support in setting up a provincial Whitley Council for the area."

The committee decided to make representations to the Ministry of Labour to protect the interests of those members who will be affected by the application of Part 2 of the Unemployment Act, 1934.

Legal Assistance

Mr. P. H. Harrold and Mr. D. L. Griffiths have been appointed chairman and vice-chairman of the Law and Parliamentary Committee, and Mr. Harrold, in submitting the report of that committee, gave details of 24 cases where assistance had been rendered to members of the Association, in addition to 240 cases of legal advice and assistance which had been dealt with at headquarters during the preceding three months.

Widows' Pensions

It will be remembered that the Annual Conference 1936 requested the National Executive Council to consider the desirability of securing in the Compulsory Superannuation Bill some provision for pensions to widows of officers and retired officers. The committee stated that a sub-committee had already reported on this matter, and as a result of that sub-committee's report it was decided to take no action on the question of provision of pensions for widows of officers who died in the service, but endeavours would be made to secure the insertion in the proposed Compulsory Bill a provision empowering local authorities to pay gratuities to the widows of such officers

As regards the provision of pensions for widows of retired officers, representations would be made for the inclusion in the proposed Government Bill to amend the Superannuation Act of 1922 provisions for this purpose not less favourable than the provisions relating to that subject in the Surrey County Council Bill now before Parliament.

Protection of Officers

The Electricity Supply (Meters) Bill had also been examined, and it appeared possible that the Bill might involve a diminution of the duties of existing officers of local authority undertakers who are engaged in examining and testing electricity meters. Representations were made by the Association to the Minister of Transport, who stated that if the Bill becomes law it should not involve the displacement of existing officers and servants engaged in meter work. In view of this assurance the committee felt that the officers and servants who are members of the Association would not be prejudicially affected, but that if any difficulty did arise in the future in any individual case the Ministry and the Electricity Commissioners could, in view of the correspondence which had taken place, be asked to use their good offices.

By Clause I of the Midwives Bill it will be the duty of each county council and county borough council and certain other local authorities to secure, either by making arrangements with welfare councils or voluntary organizations for the employment of midwives, or by itself employing midwives, that an adequate number of salaried midwives is available in its area to attend on women in their own homes as midwives or maternity nurses. At a meeting of county branch representatives held at Aberdeen at the end of May, the question was raised as to the effect of this Bill on the actuarial position of superannuation funds of local authorities. The Law and Parliamentary Committee reported that it had inquired into this position and had ascertained that if any service of the midwife before she entered the service of the local authority is to be reckoned for superannuation purposes, the cost of the superannuation in respect of her service will be borne by the county fund or general rate fund, and not by the superannuation fund. Her service with the local authority will, of course, be in the same position as other employees of the authority who hold designated posts.

Air Raid Precautions

The attention of the committee had been called to the position of officers of local authorities who may suffer injury or death whilst carrying out duties in connexion with the organization of defensive measures against air raids. It was suggested to the air raid precautions department of the Home Office that an officer or servant, injured or killed in undertaking risks during or after an air raid (provided those risks arise out of duties accepted under an air raid precautions scheme), should be recognised to be in a position which is a special one and similar to the position of men in the Forces, or, say, in the police or fire brigade. The Home Office replied that to do this would mean the introduction of special legislation, but it was not possible at this stage to define the terms of such legislation, if the magnitude of an emergency or of an impending emergency should render its introduction desirable. A note has, however, been taken by the Home Office of the suggestion made that the personnel might be dealt with on the lines of schemes applicable to members of the Defence Forces.

National Executive Council

(Continued.)

Public Health Bill

Representations were made by the Association to the Ministry of Health in connexion with the provisions in the Public Health Bill relating to transfer of officers, compensation, and superannuation, and as a result these provisions have been considerably modified. In the modified form in which they appear in the Bill as introduced in Parliament, they substantially meet the points raised on behalf of the Association. A number of further amendments have also been submitted on behalf of the Association, and the majority of them have been agreed to by the Ministry.

Examinations Record Broken

Mr. J. Chaston and Mr. C. A. W. Roberts have been appointed chairman and vice-chairman of the Education Committee for the year 1936-37. The committee reported that since its March meeting it had arranged for entrance to the service examinations. In connexion with the Association's examination held on May 21, 22, and 23 there had been a total of 132 entries, as compared with 62 in the January examinations and 86 in the examinations held at the corresponding period last year.

The entries on this occasion constitute new records for the intermediate and final grades, the highest figures in the past being 80 and 16 respectively. The committee had appointed Messrs. J. Chaston, A. A. Garrard, F. V. Merriman and C. A. W. Roberts as its representatives on the "Hadow" Sub-Committee, which is a joint sub-committee between the Education Committee and the Service Conditions and Organization Committee.

Diplomas in Public Administration

The committee reported that a Diploma in Public Administration had been established at Armstrong College, Newcastle-upon-Tyne and at Oxford University (which had also established a Certificate in Public Administration). A deputation had met representatives of Aberdeen University who were sympathetic towards the principle of establishing a Diploma in Public Administration, but regretted that their finances would not permit the appointment of a lecturer, and that existing courses could not be suitably adapted for a complete course in Public Administration. A further attempt, however, is to be made and a further report will be presented to the autumn meeting of the committee.

Splendid Progress

The committee authorized the chairman and vice-chairman to allocate grants to universities in respect of the academic year 1936-37, provided that a sum not exceeding £500 was spent in this direction. A deputation has been appointed to approach the Board of Education with the object of securing representation of the Association on the Technical Advisory Councils and similar educational bodies. Splendid progress is being made in the establishment of area education committees, and there are now only one or two districts which have yet to fall into line before the whole of the country is covered with them. The Nalgo Correspondence Institute again reported great progress; 242 students having been enrolled from January 1 to May 31, 1936, as compared with 240 for the corresponding period of 1935.

Films on Local Government

The Public Relations Committee reported through its chairman, Mr. W. E. Lloyd, that Mr. J. L. Holland had been appointed to represent the Association on the Association for Education in Citizenship for the year 1936-37. The committee also reported that the Gaumont British Film Corporation had undertaken to produce a series of six films illustrating the work of local government, and that the general secretary had been asked to join a small committee which had been set up to advise the producers of the film.

Representation on Other Bodies

Mr. A. G. M. Archibald has been appointed chairman and Mr. T. Freeman vice-chairman of the Finance and General Purposes Committee for the ensuing year. The committee reported that it had appointed Mr. E. G. Whitney to represent the Association on the London Safety First Council for the year 1936-37, and Mr. A. A. Garrard on the National Council for Social Service.

Refund of Fees at Holiday Centres

Mr. J. W. Singleton and Mr. A. G. Bolton were appointed chairman and vice-chairman of the Publications and Recreation Committee. The committee had considered the question of refunds to visitors who arrived at the holiday centres late or departed before their period of residence had expired, and it decided that **where the visitor who had booked accommodation arrived at the centre one or more days late, no refund should be made in respect of the fees paid; that if a visitor left the centre one or more days before the end of the period for which he had booked, provided he submitted a certificate from the centre doctor in respect of illness, or submitted some other satisfactory evidence, a refund of half of the fees paid in respect of the unexpired period of the booking would be paid to him, but that in all other cases no refund would be made. The committee also decided that in the event of accommodation previously booked being cancelled more than a period of a month before the date on which a visitor is due to take up residence, the booking fees be returned; but in the event of a cancellation being received less than a month before the commencing date of a period of residence, no refund be made in respect of the booking fees unless it is possible to relet the accommodation.**

£13,000 Per Annum

The Benevolent and Orphan Fund Committee reported that it had appointed

Mr. H. S. Newton as its chairman, and Mr. A. G. Bolton as its vice-chairman. The committee stated that out of the amount which it had received from the Help Yourself Society it had allocated £708 15s. to district committees, and £757 10s. to orphanages and hospitals, and it also reported that 8,000 copies of the annual had been ordered for sale during 1936. The committee had thanked Mr. W. Wilson, an honorary life member of the fund, who offered as an incentive to the members of the Camberwell Branch to double the amount contributed by them over and above their usual contributions up to an amount not exceeding £50. As a result of this offer the members contributed nearly £60 in addition to normal subscriptions, and Mr. Wilson had sent a cheque for £50 to the fund. The committee also acknowledged the special efforts made by the Camberwell Branch to increase its contributions. Details of 351 cases involving expenditure of approximately £4,600 were considered. The number of persons in receipt of weekly allowances is now 284, and grants are being made to them at the rate of close on £13,000 for the year 1936.

Building Society

The Building Society Committee of Management reported that since the inception of the society 13,927 members were contributing under the share account, and there was a total of 2,730 depositors. Loans totalling £241,893 had been made since the March meeting of the committee.

Provident Progress

The Nalgo Provident Society Committee of Management appointed Mr. W. H. Whinnerah as its chairman, and Mr. J. T. Baker as its vice-chairman for the ensuing year. The committee's report shows that there were now 16,057 members in the sickness scheme, 1,081 in the death benefit scheme, and that the total number of persons insured under the hospital and nursing home scheme was 3,894. The committee had decided to pay, as from January 1, 1936, to the local correspondents a capitation fee of 2s. for obtaining a new member of the hospital and nursing home scheme, and a sum of 1s. 6d. per annum for keeping the members' accounts, provided that those new members were not members of the sickness scheme or the death benefit scheme.

Popular Nalgo House

The Nalgo Approved Society reported that for the period January 1 to June 12 4,383 applications for additional benefits involving a sum of £7,915 had been approved, and that from January 1 to May 26 158 persons had been admitted to Nalgo House, Matlock, and had stayed there for an aggregate period of 339 weeks, 1 day.

Insurance Increases

Logomia Board of Management held a meeting on Friday, July 17, at which Mr. S. Lord was appointed chairman and Mr. G. W. Coster vice-chairman. The Board reported that 1,818 motor insurance policies had been issued for the six months January 1 to June 30, and that, at that date, a total of 7,665 policies were in force; 573 life policies and 1,183 fire and householders comprehensive policies had been issued during the six months.

Scottish Notes

Superannuation Progress

Whitley Council

DEFINITE progress has now been made towards the establishment of a Whitley Council for the technical, clerical, and administrative staffs of local authorities in Scotland. Recently there have been two meetings of the twelve representatives appointed by the three associations of local authorities, viz., the County Councils Association, the Convention of Burghs, and the Association of the Counties of the Cities. At the first meeting Lord Provost Nimmo of Perth was appointed chairman, and it was decided that a constitution be drafted. At the next meeting the draft was approved, and instructions given for a future meeting to be convened for July 31, to which representatives of the unions concerned are to be invited.

Lanarkshire Branch

On May 27 a deputation from the branch, consisting of Mr. R. C. T. Mair, M.C., LL.B., Mr. Robert Anderson, M.B.E., and Mr. James Brown, branch secretary, and Mr. J. M. Mortimer, divisional secretary, waited on a sub-committee of the county council with reference to our memorandum on the council's grading scheme of salaries. Mr. Mortimer submitted the case and went over the various items in the memorandum, expressing the Association's point of view with regard to matters raised. The atmosphere was friendly, and the chairman intimated that the committee would be prepared to meet us on several important points, particularly with regard to the removal of some of the salary bars. As regards the minor points, reports from the heads of departments would be requested. The minute of the meeting has not been made public, and it would, therefore, be unwise to go into any detail regarding the interview or its results in the meantime.

Hamilton. Two applications, one for a grading scheme of salaries and another for a superannuation scheme, were made some time ago by the Association to the town council. The finance committee of the town council recently had these applications under consideration, and at the suggestion of the Association they were remitted to the Whitley Council now being constituted for their consideration and recommendation.

West Lothian Branch

Our application to the county council of West Lothian for a revision of the salary scales in the public assistants department was recently before the county council, and has resulted in a considerable improvement being effected. Under the amended scale, several members of the staff have received substantial increases. A few who, up till now, have remained outwith the membership have, in consequence of their improved conditions, become members of the Association.

Superannuation

Clydebank Town Council has now decided to adopt a superannuation scheme. The confirming meeting will be in August, as there are no meetings during July. **Kilmarnock** Town Council has also decided to adopt a superannuation scheme, which came into force on July 15. The **Ayrshire** scheme has now been finally adopted, and operates as from May 15 last. **Renfrewshire** scheme has also been finally adopted, and will operate as from November 15 next. The **Dumfries** Town Council scheme will also operate from that date. The progress made with these superannuation schemes within the past few months is indeed very gratifying, and it may be said that Scotland is now in as favourable a position as England with regard to this important question.

Sports

The annual sports day, which is usually such an enjoyable outing, is being arranged for Saturday September 12, at Bridge of Allan. Will members in the habit of attending, and any others who would like to join the happy company, kindly take note of that date. All the arrangements have not yet been completed, but they will be along the lines of previous years, and the cost of lunch, tea, and entrance fees will be similar. Circulars and entry forms will be in the hands of branch secretaries before these notes appear. The last day for lodging entry forms is September 5. It should be clearly understood that members and their friends will be welcomed, even though not taking part in the games. For those not familiar with our sports outing, it may be mentioned that the competitions are for golf (ladies and gents), tennis, and bowling.

Obituary.

We much regret to report the sudden death of Mr. Robert Walls, who for many years was honorary secretary of Edinburgh Branch, and for one or two years chairman of its executive. He was also for several years a member of the National Executive Council, and an active member of the Scottish Council since its formation in 1920. He took a great interest in our educational work, and for several years acted as convener of the Scottish Education Committee. Some five years ago he was forced by reason of ill health to retire from the service, and although he never completely recovered, he was able to enjoy a quiet and happy retirement. The Association in Scotland, and particularly in Edinburgh, owes much to his wise guidance and sound common sense. At the time of his retirement his splendid service was suitably recognised. To his widow and family we extend our sincere sympathy.

At Random

By "Hyperion"

"DILIGENCE SEEMS SO COMMONPLACE THAT WHEN WE SEE A GREAT ACCOMPLISHMENT OF LEARNING, OF DISCOVERY, IN STATESMANSHIP, IN WHAT YOU WILL, WE ARE ALWAYS INCLINED TO ATTRIBUTE IT TO GENIUS, TO GOOD FORTUNE, TO EVERYTHING AND ANYTHING EXCEPT THAT VERY POWER OF CONCENTRATION AND CONTINUOUS WORK WHICH IS ITS VERY FOUNDATION."—STANLEY BALDWIN.

Two Tributes

Permanent officials are accustomed to getting most of the kicks and little of the kudos. It is refreshing, therefore, to read the following tribute to their work in Mr. E. L. Hasluck's new book: "Local Government in England."

"Taken as a whole, the average English local council is a poor thing. Were the members left to undertake the duties of supervising the details of local administration . . . there would be chaos in a very short time in most areas. Fortunately, most of the ignorant ones and all the title-hunters leave the work of effective supervision and control to the chiefs of the municipal civil service, the paid officials." But "it may be said, taking a broad view over the whole of our local services, that the present system gives generally satisfactory results."

Another tribute to members of the Civil Service and the Local Government Service was made by Sir Arthur Salter, who acted as Chairman this year of the Summer Conference of the Institute of Public Administration.

"The Central and Local Services," he said, "have more to do for human welfare than any other body or professional organisation."

New Policy of the B.B.C.

There are indications that the B.B.C. is about to try the experiment of giving listeners what they themselves think they think they want, instead of what the B.B.C. thinks they think they think they want.—*Punch.*

Secret of Longevity

"To what do you attribute your remarkable health?" asked the interviewer.

"Well," replied the octogenarian, "I reckon I got a good start on most people by bein' born before germs were discovered, thereby havin' less to worry about."

Lapsus Linguæ

Witness (before a Parliamentary Committee): "Electric cooking by gas."

Counsel: "It can't be done!"

Wisecracks from the "Talkies"

(1) She: Are you sure your wife will not mind your taking me out?"

He: "You'd better be careful of my wife. She's already killed five ladies and one platinum blonde."—*From "Exclusive Story."*

(2) "I don't like my little nephew crossing the road alone . . . If it comes to a showdown, I don't like the little blighter at all."—*Groucho Marx.*

(3) "Do you believe in love at first sight?"

"Waal, I don't know, but it must save a lot of time."—*From "Klondike Annie."*

Obvious!

Lord Riverdale said recently that standardisation was so valuable that he wondered whether some day it might be applied to artists.

To illustrate his point, he told this story at a luncheon of the British Standards Institution at the Royal Automobile Club:

An artist was persuaded by a friend to go to the Royal Academy, and he was shown a futurist picture.

"What is it?" he asked.

His friend said: "That is a cow grazing."

"Where is the grass?"

"Oh, she has eaten it all."

"Then where is the cow?"

"You don't think she would be such a fool as to stay there when it had all gone?"

Inter-Staff Messages

Government factory inspector kindly authenticates following four inter-departmental notes, which were sent recently in a Government office, some days elapsing between messages:

1. Memo from A to B: "Has nothing been done about this?"
2. Memo from B to A: "Yes."
3. Memo from A to B: "What?"
4. Memo from B to A: "Nothing."

Motto for Hore-Belisha

". . . that driving by the people through the people and over the people may shortly perish from the earth."

Cheltenham Eccentric

An alderman living in Cheltenham
Wore trousers with bits of blue felt in 'em.
Said the mayor with a frown,
When the trousers fell down:
"This surrealism stuff is all very well, but he ought to wear a pair of braces—or a belt in 'em."

—*"Sunday Dispatch."*

Feminine Psychology

"Do you think I'm too young to marry, aunt?"

"If I had my time over again, dear," replied the old maid, "I'd get married before I had sense enough not to."—*Medley.*

Woman

Woman, beguiling man, herself beguiles
With hopes that all too quickly turn to fears.
She lights a conflagration with her smiles
And vainly seeks to quench it with her tears.

Colin D. B. Ellis.

ALL MANKIND'S CONCERN

Weekly Allowances

A member, aged 41 years, contracted tuberculosis in October, 1934, and was admitted to the Royal National Hospital for Consumption, Ventnor, on receiving a letter of recommendation from the Benevolent and Orphan Fund. She remained in the hospital for about fifteen months, and during that time underwent two serious operations. The hospital authorities then pointed out to the member that they were unable to do anything further for her, and that a change of air was necessary. Arrangements were, therefore, made for her to be admitted to another sanatorium in Sussex, and as by this time her salary from the council had been reduced by half, the fund contributed towards her maintenance charges. Unfortunately, the member will be unable to resume her duties in the Local Government Service, and she has, therefore, been superannuated on a small pension. The member has now been discharged from the sanatorium and has returned home. The fund is making a substantial weekly allowance in this case in order to supplement the member's inadequate income.

A member, aged 33 years, contracted tuberculosis and was compelled to retire on a small pension. He was advised to reside in the country, and, therefore, obtained a small cottage in Buckinghamshire at a low rental. It is hoped that he will shortly be sufficiently recovered to perform some light duties in order to help augment his very small income, and in the meantime, the fund is making a weekly allowance towards the support of this member and his wife.

A widow, aged 34 years, left with six children under the age of 12 years dependent upon her, the youngest being seven months. Her only income is 30s. per week widow's and orphans' pensions, and a small balance from superannuation contributions returned by the authority. The fund is making a substantial weekly grant in this case.

Lump Sum Grant

A member, aged 46 years, with a wife and three young children dependent upon him, found himself getting into debt owing to the serious illness of his wife. She had had three breakdowns in health during the past six years, and had been seriously ill for the past twelve months. Member's wife has now consulted a specialist, who has advised her to undergo special treatment at a cost of approximately £25. The fund is making a grant in this case towards the cost of the treatment.

A member, aged 45 years, with a wife and two children aged 10 and 8 years dependent upon him has fallen into debt owing to the very serious illness of his wife, who is suffering from cancer (incurable). She has been admitted to a nursing-home as she now needs constant qualified attention, and the member has been told that she cannot live for more than a few months. The fund is making a generous grant towards the heavy expenses which are being incurred.

Salaries and Service Conditions

Widespread Improvements

SUPERANNUATION

The following authorities have adopted the 1922 Act :

Cardigan County Council.
Soke of Peterborough County Council.
Borough of Carmarthen.
Borough of Loughborough.
Scunthorpe and Frodingham Urban District Council.
Carmarthen Rural District Council.
Pontardawe Rural District Council.
South Kesteven Rural District Council.

The **Barrowford U.D.C.** and **Fulwood U.D.C.** have been admitted to the Central Lancashire Joint Superannuation Scheme.

The **Huddersfield** Corporation has decided to base allowances on 80ths instead of 120ths to retiring officers in all cases.

The **Middlesbrough** Corporation has decided to apply to the Ministry of Labour for a Certificate of Exception from Unemployment Insurance.

SALARIES

The Divisional Secretary attended a meeting of the **Rotherham** Rural District Council Staff Joint Committee in support of an application for the adoption of the West Riding Provincial Council scales of salaries. Although the employers' side were unable to grant our full request, increases were recommended in 13 cases.

Arising from the withdrawal of Delegation of Road Functions, the salary of a member of the staff of the **Auckland** Rural District Council was reduced by the Council by an amount of £32 per annum. As a result of an application made by the divisional secretary, the salary of the officer in question has been restored to its original figure.

At the request of the local branch, the divisional secretary recently made an application to the **Mexborough** Urban District Council for an increase in the salary of one of the members. The result was that an immediate increase of £49 per annum was granted, and the officer placed on Grade B1 of the West Riding Provincial Council Scales of Salaries.

The salary scales of the Lancashire and Cheshire Whitley Council have recently been adopted at **Ormskirk U.D.C. and Wirral U.D.C.**

Following an application from the local branch for a revision of the scale of salaries for probationers and fourth grade clerks, the **Gloucestershire** County Council has decided that probationary service shall cease at the age of 18, when probationers will be classed as fourth grade clerks. Their commencing salary will be £60 per annum, rising by annual increments of £10 to £140 per annum.

GRADING

Grading schemes submitted by the Whitley Council have been adopted at **Mossley Borough, Congleton Borough, Sandbach Urban.** Grading schemes have also been forwarded to **Chorley Borough and Skelmersdale U.D.C.** for approval.

As a result of a recent meeting of the joint conciliation committee at **Gateshead,** several officers have been regraded into a superior grade.

The **Congleton** Borough Council has decided to adopt, as from May 18 last, the grades and salaries recommended by the Lancashire and Cheshire Provincial Council. The staffs benefiting thereby include also the gas and electricity undertakings.

The **Leicester** County Council has approved a scheme of grading for clerical staffs, to take effect from April 1, 1936.

SICK PAY

The staff side of the joint consultative committee of the **Cardiff** City Council raised the point that when resident staff in receipt of emoluments were absent on sick leave a money allowance in lieu of rations was not, as a general rule, allowed. The City Council has now approved a resolution that during absence through sickness a money allowance in lieu of rations be paid to members of institutional staffs who are in receipt of residential emoluments, similar to that paid whilst on annual leave.

Following a recommendation of the Finance Committee of the **Rochdale** Corporation that in the application of the scheme for the payment of salary to the administrative staffs during absence through sickness, the deduction from salary be made in respect of *both voluntary* and *compulsory contributors,* the Association communicated with the Council, asking that deductions should be made in respect of *compulsory contributors only.* As a result the recommendation was referred back to the Finance Committee and at a meeting of the Rochdale Council on July 2, a further recommendation that deductions be made in respect of *compulsory contributors only* was confirmed.

OFFICE HOURS

The joint conciliation committee at **Gateshead** has recommended that all departments should be closed at 12 noon on Saturdays.

The **Surbiton** branch approached the Council in connexion with the time of closing the offices on Saturday—and as a result the offices now close at 12.30 instead of 1 p.m. as hitherto.

The **Wirral** Urban District Council has agreed to allow its officers leave of absence from duty one Saturday morning in every four.

HOLIDAYS

The divisional secretary, accompanied by a deputation from the branch, applied to the Finance Committee of the **Newcastle-upon-Tyne** City Council for a graded scheme of annual holidays to be adopted. The Finance Committee has unanimously recommended the Council to agree to 3 extra days being granted after 15 years' local government service, with 3 further days after 20 years' service. At the time of writing, the recommendation is subject to confirmation by the Council.

The **Cardiff** City Council has approved the following scale of holidays, to operate from July 1, 1936 : (a) officials with less than 1 year's service—1 working day for each month of service ; (b) officials under 26 years of age—12 working days ; (c) officials 26 years of age and over, subject to a minimum of 5 years' local government service—15 working days ; (d) officials receiving salaries of £350 per annum and over—18 working days ; (e) the above holidays to be granted in addition to the general holidays granted by the Lord Mayor ; (f) service under any other local authority to count for holiday purposes ; (g) no officer shall be prejudicially affected by the operation of this scale ; (h) the foregoing scale shall not adversely affect any position to which holidays additional to those above-mentioned are attached.

APPOINTMENTS

Following representations made by the negotiating committee to the **Liverpool** City Council, a large number of temporary staff, including rent collectors, have been appointed to fill vacancies on the permanent staff. Further, as a result of recent vacancies and reorganization, some 20 members of the treasurer's department have received promotion into higher grades.

REVISED REGULATIONS

The **Newcastle-under-Lyme** Council has approved revised regulations for payment of salary during sickness, office hours and holidays.

PROTEST

The attention of the Association was called to an advertisement for an assistant borough surveyor, where the applicants were invited to state salary required. A protest was lodged by the Association, whereupon the local authority agreed to re-advertise at a definite salary, plus car allowance.

LOCAL JOINT COMMITTEES

The **Rhondda** Council has agreed to form a joint advisory committee consisting of representatives of the Council and N.A.L.G.O.

A constitution for a local joint committee for the **Northwich** Urban District Council and staff was approved at a meeting of the Council on July 7, when the Council appointed five members to represent the employers' side on the committee.

CHARGES AGAINST OFFICIALS

The **Houghton-le-Spring** Rural District Council recently met in private : " To consider the general attitude of the Council in regard to the notice of motion given by Councillor Mrs. J. Dunn at the last meeting of the Council, held on June 4, in connexion with which certain statements were made calculated to implicate an official, and to discuss the matter as it affects the position both of the Council and of their staff in general.

" To consider a letter from the National Association of Local Government Officers calling attention to the aspects produced by the newspaper report of the foregoing matter so far as such report affects members of the staff who are also members of the Association."

At the close of the meeting, a typed statement was issued to the press by the clerk of the council and in which the Council stated that there were no grounds for such charges, and that there was no doubt in the mind of the Council that there remained no matter requiring investigation by the Minister of Health.

A vote of confidence in the whole of the officials and staff of this Council was passed and placed on record.

COMPENSATION

It has previously been reported in these columns that a serious accident was sustained by two members of the **Easington** branch whilst proceeding to the office on a motor bicycle. Unfortunately, one was killed and the other seriously injured. In order to obtain the maximum compensation possible, the matter was placed in the hands of local solicitors, and, although there were numerous difficulties, we are pleased to report that the compensation claims have been satisfactorily settled, and that a sum of £26 5s. towards the costs of the solicitors has been granted by the insurance company.

Nalgo Building Society

Wonderful Progress

Mortgage Interest Reduced

A WONDERFUL record of three and a half years' working of the Nalgo Building Society was given at the fourth annual meeting held on Tuesday, June 2, 1936, at the Music Hall, Aberdeen, when the report of the Committee of Management showed that £1,816,404 had been advanced in mortgages during the period.

Mr. J. T. Baker, Chairman of the Committee of Management, presided, and welcomed the new President of the Association, **Mr. W. E. Lloyd,** who was attending his first public function as President and Hon. Treasurer.

Mr. Lloyd acknowledged, and presented the financial statement and balance sheet, explaining that the accounts were in the form prescribed by the Registrar of Building Societies. The income showed interest on investments was £12,360 and interest on advances £58,630, together with £11,572 for fees, fines, etc., making a total of £82,562. Management expenses were £8,116, survey fees £2,902, interest on deposits £16,014, bank interest £1,063, income tax £6,539, depreciation and losses on mortgages £460, leaving £47,466 to bring down to the credit of Appropriation Account. In addition, there was the unappropriated balance brought forward from last year of £11,770, thus making a total of £59,237. Interest on shares was paid at 4%, free of tax, which amounted to £43,181, leaving a balance of unappropriated profit to carry to next year of £16,055. Thus they had increased their credit balance by £4,385. The balance sheet showed £1,654,513 on mortgage; £376,743 investments, liability to shareholders, including interest £1,365,310 and £554,58[illegible] liability to depositors. The bank overdraft was £89,015. A feature of the accounts was that, since inception, the Building Society had the whole of the interest earned, less interest paid to shareholders and depositiors as a surplus fund of the Building Society. Now they had £711 in addition, for there was £16,055 accumulated reserve. **"I don't know whether you consider that satisfactory," said Mr. Lloyd, "but all I can say is there never was a building society, and there is not a building society, in such a favourable position as to be able to say the whole of the interest earned less interest paid away is £15,345."**

Mr. Lloyd then answered questions which had been sent to him by post, and concluded by saying that these were the finest accounts he had ever presented to any body.

After several questions had been put and answered by **Mr. Lloyd,** the accounts were unanimously adopted.

Mr. W. C. Wood (Leeds) proposed a vote of thanks to **Mr. Lloyd** for his services as Hon. Treasurer, and, acknowledging, **Mr. Lloyd** said he was delighted to be able to serve them in that way. He was happy in the work, because he felt so many members of N.A.L.G.O. were benefiting by the Building Society. It was decided to form the society on a very narrow majority, but a quarter of the members of N.A.L.G.O. were interested in it in some form or other after only three and a half years' working.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

The printed report of the Committee of Management was then submitted by the **Chairman,** who said, having regard to the fact that it only represented the result of three and a half years' working since the inception of the society, they would agree it was really an extraordinary statement. Membership of the society, which meant the members of N.A.L.G.O. or their wives, or members of the staff or their wives, totalled 13,415, an increase of 3,884 over last year. Having regard to the time it took to get some of the ordinary members of N.A.L.G.O. to know any ancillary of the Association, it was satisfactory that 14,000 had taken advantage of it. The amount of the mortgages outstanding was mentioned in the report as £1,654,513, but since then the amount had reached well over two millions. The extraordinary thing about the past year was that, though it was only two and a half years since the commencement of operations, they were able to lend out practically three-quarters of a million in one period of twelve months. **The main item the committee were gratified to be able to place before them was the reduction in the rate of interest on mortgages. This was reduced ½% in January, 1935, and the committee announced further reductions to take place from December, 1936.** He thought in that regard they had practically reached rock bottom. They were the first society to reduce the rates of interest on mortgages, and they went to 4½% for those already holding mortgages, a rate they could not increase whatever happened. They now felt they could take one small step further in this respect, and the rate of interest on mortgages as from January 1 next would be the same for houses in the occupation of the member as for houses purchased for investment. When the mortgage outstanding reached two-thirds of its value, the rate would then be reduced to 4¼%, because the management committee thought this was one of the cases they should take into consideration. **Mr. Baker** called attention to the committee's expression of keen appreciation of the great assistance given to it and to the Building Society generally by the local correspondents throughout the country. They knew they were very largely dependent upon them to disseminate information with regard to the society among the members. They took a great deal of trouble in the collection of subscriptions and mortgage repayments.

Mr. B. T. Healey (West Riding) asked if the children of members could be allowed to have fully paid shares, because several members had expressed the opinion that the facilities of the Building Society should be open to their children.

The **Chairman** replied the rules had been settled, but if any member wished to table a notice of motion, he could do so.

Mr. Lloyd remarked that mothers and fathers could invest in the society for their children.

The payment of interest at 3½% free of tax on deposits and 4% free of tax on shares during the year 1935 was approved, as recommended by the Committee of Management.

The report was approved and adopted.

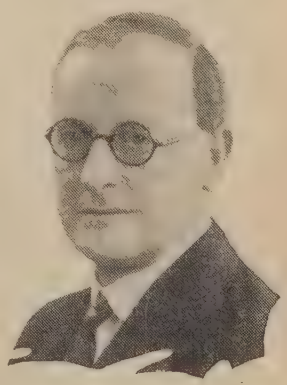
Thanks to the management committee concluded the meeting.

LAW OF HOUSING

In December, 1932, Mr. Clarke published the first edition of his "Outlines of the Law of Housing and Planning." The present demand for a third edition of this work, now called **"The Law of Housing and Planning"** (Pitman, 15s.), has synchronised, as Mr. Clarke explains, with such important events as the passing of the Housing Act, 1935, and the Restriction of Ribbon Development Act, 1935, and the adoption by the Minister of Health of the 1935 Model Clauses for Planning.

That the author no longer regards the book as "Outlines," and that the price of the book has been raised by stages from 7s. 6d. for the first edition to 15s. for the present volume, is ample evidence that the book has grown. An examination of its pages convinces that it provides a complete and up-to-date guide to the law on this important subject. To officers concerned with housing and planning and to students it will be a valuable book.

For local government officers, acquainted as they are with his other works, the fact that this work is from the pen of Mr. Clarke will be sufficient assurance of its thoroughness and its authenticity.



Mr. J. T. BAKER.

Provident Society Annual Meeting

Death Benefit Bonus Increased

THE thirteenth annual meeting of the N.A.L.G.O. Provident Society was held in the Music Hall, Aberdeen, on Friday, May 29, 1936. **Mr. W. H. Whinnerah,** Chairman of the Committee of Management, was elected to the chair, and extended a warm welcome to members.

Mr. W. E. Lloyd (Hon. Treasurer) submitted the financial statement and balance sheet for the year 1935. He said there had been allocated to the Rest Fund 8½d. per shilling contributed, which represented a sum of £21,449. The committee might have made it 8¾d., but he asked members to approve the 8½d., and to let them keep the farthing in reserve.

Mr. Lloyd congratulated members on the Death Benefit Fund, which, he said, was one of the finest insurance schemes and comparable with anything in the country. The income of this fund was £902, and the expenditure £185, leaving a surplus of £716 19s. 8d.

THE ANNUAL REPORT

The annual report of the Committee of Management was then considered.

Membership showed a net increase of 1,445, largely as the result of an intensive membership campaign and competition. The **Chairman** stated the committee did not propose to run a similar competition this year. There had been increased sickness benefit paid, partly due to the increased membership; 2,344 members declared on the funds, involving the sum of £10,719 15s., representing an increase of 16.16 per cent for the year 1935.

Dealing with the Rest Fund, the report stated that the large sum of £97,748 now stood to the credit of the members' accounts and included compound interest at 3 per cent.

Concluding the report, the Committee of Management expressed its appreciation of the valuable work and co-operation of local correspondents.

ALTERATION OF RULES

Several alterations of rules in regard to constitution and membership and monthly contributions were submitted by the **Committee of Management,** and agreed, and these amendments will be incorporated in a complete amendment of rules.

Amendments of rules made necessary by the Hospital and Nursing Home Scheme were also approved and adopted.

MEMBERS' INTEREST REDUCTION

The Committee of Management submitted notices of motion to reduce the interest payable on members' Deposits and "Rest" Fund from 3 per cent to 2 per cent, as from January 1, 1936. It was explained that the object was to avoid a deficiency on the Management Fund.

On behalf of the Glasgow Branch, **Mr. S. H. Brodie** moved the following amendment:

"That while the members of the Glasgow Branch approve the recommendation of the Committee of Management to reduce the rate of interest on Deposits and 'Rest' Fund, they are of the opinion that this reduction should come into operation as from July 1, 1936."

Mr. Brodie said whilst they agreed something should be done to rectify the financial position, they thought notice of their intention to reduce the interest should have been given to members previously.

Mr. J. T. Baker, on behalf of the Committee of Management, said it was not quite fair to suggest this was the first notice members had had of the suggested reduction, because in the LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICE of April intimation was given that this notice of motion would come before them at that meeting. If the notice of motion were turned down, there would be only one way to make up the deficit, and that was by making a levy on members.

The Glasgow amendment was defeated by 71 votes to 68.

Mr. Jones, on behalf of the Wolverhampton Branch, moved a further amendment to have the rate of interest determined by the annual general meeting from time to time on the recommendation of the management committee.

The **Chairman** said the Committee of Management was not prepared to accept the amendment. The rate of interest should be shown clearly in the rules.

The amendment was lost, and the Committee of Management's motion adopted.

AUDIT OF BOOKS

Mr. A. E. Kay (Stoke Newington) asked if the Committee of Management had considered the desirability of organizing local audits of the books of the local correspondent and individual members of the society.

Mr. Lloyd replied that, as treasurer, he thought it was vital that executive committees should control the finances of officers.

The **Chairman** pointed out the question had not been before the committee or the finance committee of the parent body.

Mr. Kay asked leave to move a motion **"that in the opinion of this meeting a frequent audit of books of local correspondents and members of the N.P.S. conducted under the auspices of the local Branch Executive Committee is unnecessary."** He said he did so on four grounds; first, it was not necessary; secondly, it was an attack on the integrity of local correspondents; thirdly, there would be interference with the private affairs of individual members; and, fourthly, there was the question of the extent of the audit.

Mr. M. E. Fitch (East Ham) seconded.

Mr. Lloyd urged the meeting not to entertain the proposal. It was most necessary the executive committees of all local guilds should have complete control of all affairs of N.A.L.G.O. Eventually the motion was carried.

The following notice of motion was submitted by the Bristol Branch:

"After the word 'subsequently' in the last line of Section 9, add the words 'In the case of a person who is a member of both the Sickness Scheme (Table I) and the Hospital and Nursing Home Scheme (Table III), a written notice of illness sent to the Secretary of the Society in accordance with the provisions of Section 4 of Rule 13 will be accepted as notification of a claim likely to arise under the Hospital and Nursing Home Scheme (Table III)."

The **Chairman** said the Committee of Management were prepared to accept this if the words **"in respect of the same illness"** were added. The motion was agreed, with this addition.

PERMANENT SICKNESS INSURANCE

The following notice of motion, submitted by the Glasgow Branch, was carried:

"That the Committee of Management consider the adoption of a Permanent Sickness Insurance Scheme, which shall be complementary to the present Sickness Scheme, but which shall only operate after the 90th day of incapacity through illness."

Messrs. Jackson, Pixley & Co. were re-elected auditors, and **Mr. A. G. M. Archibald** was elected a trustee of the society, to fill the vacancy caused by the retirement of **Mr. H. Begg.**

The **Chairman** said **Mr. Begg** had been a trustee for many years, but was no longer eligible, as he was retiring. They would like to pass a vote of thanks to him for his services in the past, and wish him well in his retirement.

This was unanimously agreed.

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE

On a ballot, **Messrs. S. H. Brodie (Glasgow), H. R. Jones (Wolverhampton) and L. H. Taylor (Salford)** were re-elected to the Committee of Management.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the Committee of Management, and to **Mr. Whinnerah** for presiding.

MR. W. H. WHINNERAH

Logomia Annual Meeting

Successful Year—Two New Schemes Inaugurated

THE addition of business in the way of hire-purchase of motor vehicles was a feature of the 45th annual meeting of the National and Local Government Officers' Mutual Insurance Association, Ltd., held on Tuesday, June 2, 1936, at the Music Hall, Aberdeen.

Mr. S. Lord, chairman of the Board of Management, presided.

The report of the Board of Management, submitted by the **Chairman,** contained the actuary's valuation of the fund for the past quinquennial period which disclosed that the Association was in a position to distribute a reversionary bonus of £2 per £100 assured. This bonus was in respect of each policy year entered upon since the last valuation. **With the view of maintaining interest rates and at the same time affording further facilities to N.A.L.G.O members, the Board were submitting that day a scheme for financing the hire-purchase of motor-cars. They were led to believe, having regard to experience in connexion with motor-car insurances, that there is a definite demand for this facility, and the terms they proposed to offer were better, so far as could be ascertained, than those of any finance corporation which deals in this business.** It was only intended at the outset to make advances in respect of new motor-cars and motor-cycles, and whether the business would be extended to second-hand cars and cycles depended upon their experience in the early stages of the scheme.

NEW SHARES

One very considerable charge on the Life Fund had been the gift of a share 10s. paid to every new policy-holder. The cost of this to December 31, 1935, was £1,610 10s. The Board was of opinion that this burden on the Life Fund should be reduced. The 10s. shares already issued would remain and would carry all ordinary shareholders' rights. The reduction of the value of the new share to 6d. would obviously benefit present policy-holders. The holders of these 6d. shares would be entitled to one vote, but on their ceasing to hold a life policy with the Association, the share would be automatically cancelled. The new shares would be fully paid, and the holders would have no concern with the profits of the Association, except those of the Life Fund, which, as members would know, are the absolute property of the "with profits" policy-holders.

MR. S. LORD

As indicated at the last annual meeting, the Board had had under consideration the revision of premium rates. Acting on the advice of three separate actuaries, who all stated that increases in premium rates were imperative, the Board were reluctantly compelled to issue a new prospectus setting out revised rates of premium on new assurance, becoming operative from January 1, last.

PROFITS DISTRIBUTION

Now, dealing with the interests of the shareholders as distinct from the policy-holders, he pointed out that the accounts record a very satisfactory year's working in all departments of the Association's business. The total surplus to date on the profit and loss account was £7,764, and the Board were recommending a profits distribution of 5 per cent per annum for the triennial period ending December 31, 1935.

Concluding, **Mr. Lord** expressed appreciation of the work done by his colleagues on the Board. They had had a very strenuous year indeed in many directions, and the Board had definitely got down to the work, and their one interest had been the interest of the policy-holders. He was delighted to see Dr. Barnes present, who, with his co-medical officers, Dr. Scrase and Dr. Thomas, gave great assistance for which the Board of Management was very grateful. Referring to the work of the local correspondents, **Mr. Lord** said they are imbued with the N.A.L.G.O. spirit, and were out to do all they possibly could for the benefit of the members.

Mr. G. W. Coster (Vice-chairman) said they were anxious at all times to encourage and further the interests of Logomia, and the two items calling for special attention were the scheme for the hire-purchase of motor vehicles, and the other was the Group Life Insurance, which should be of considerable value in some districts. He commended it to their attention. There should be no difficulty in satisfying anybody with the policies of Logomia, which were such as to be worth a very careful consideration. It was a strange thing that two out of every three persons were not insured, so even in the local government service there should be ample scope for local correspondents. He endorsed the thanks expressed to those persons who had given such valuable assistance during the past year.

Mr. Wood (Leeds) asked if policies would be issued to a department as distinct from a branch, and the general manager replied this would be done providing there was a minimum of 50.

Mr. W. E. Lloyd then moved that the Board be instructed to take hire-purchase on second-hand as well as new motor vehicles, **Mr. Brodie** seconding.

The **Chairman** said the view of the Board was definitely contrary to that expressed by Mr. Lloyd. They knew the depreciation on second-hand cars was very considerable, and if they had to realise on the cars, as they might have to do, the Board felt there was less chance of getting their money back on a second-hand car.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Lloyd presented the financial statement and, commenting on the accounts, congratulated the Board of Management and the Association on the past year's working and statistics. In 1930 the total funds were £102,000, and they were now £261,000—very nearly treble in five years. The net premium income in 1930 was £10,346, and last year it was £57,436. On the year's working the accounts showed a profit of £2,150.

The accounts were approved.

ELECTION OF BOARD

On the motion of **Mr. Lloyd, Mr. S. Lord** and **Mr. G. W. Coster, M.B.E.,** were re-elected to the Board of Management. **Mr. Lloyd** remarked that the Board could not afford to do without the service of these two gentlemen, who had rendered yeoman service to the Association.

Mr. Lord returned thanks for the renewal of confidence. He need not say they had the interest of the shareholders and the work of the Association at heart, and anything they could do to further those interests should be done at all times.

Mr. Coster also acknowledged, saying the Board submitted such proposals as they thought would be of advantage to members of the service. So long as they had their confidence it would be their endeavour to do the best they could to satisfy their requirements.

The Chairman announced that the National Executive Council had re-elected **Mr. W. W. Armitage** to the Board.

Formal resolutions authorising the inclusion of hire-purchase of motor vehicles and in regard to the 6d. Class B shares were adopted.

Messrs. Jackson, Pixley & Co. were re-elected auditors.

The recommendations of the Board of Management for the distribution of a bonus to the With-profits Life Policy-holders at the rate of £2 per £100 assured, as recommended by the actuaries, and the triennial distribution to the shareholders of a bonus at the rate of 5 per cent per annum for the period ending December 31 last were formally put and agreed to.

The proceedings then concluded.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICERS

HEADQUARTERS:
24, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.1.

ALL HEADQUARTERS COMMUNICATIONS should be addressed to the General Secretary and endorsed with the appropriate subject, e.g., "Legal," "Insurance," "Finance," "Organization," "Education," or "Special Activities."

Telephone: WHItehall 9351 (6 lines). Telegrams: Natassoc Parl, London.

COST OF LIVING

Below we give the average monthly percentage increase over the level of July, 1914, in the cost-of-living index for the past six months: February, 47; March, 46; April, 44; May, 44; June, 44; July, 46. The percentage increases in each of the five groups on which the index figure is based are as follows:

	May	June	July
Food	25	26	29
Rent	59	59	59
Clothing	90	90	90
Fuel and Light ..	75	75	75
Other Items ..	70	70	70

IMPORTANT DATE

August 31.—Branches to remit all moneys due to the Association to Headquarters.

HEADQUARTERS AND BRANCHES

The following circulars have been remitted to branch officers:

July 9

Circular No. 47/1936.
(To each branch secretary.)
Enclosing form for notifying changes in branch membership between May 1 and July 31, 1936.

Circular No. 48/*Gen.*/1936.
(To each branch secretary.)
Regarding applications for the retention of the increased rebate on subscriptions.

Circular No. 49/1936.
(To each branch secretary.)
Giving full details of the new Motor Hire Purchase Scheme.

Circular No. 50/*S. A.*/1936.
(To each branch secretary.)
(a) Enclosing statement of vacancies at the Association's Holiday Centres.
(b) Enclosing a brochure illustrating two continental holidays.
(c) Requesting that recommended addresses for the 1937 Holiday Guide be forwarded to Headquarters.
(d) Concerning articles available in the Association's colours.

July 21

Circular No. 51/*Prov.*/1936.
(To each local correspondent of the Nalgo Provident Society.)
(a) Regarding payment of fees in respect of the Hospital and Nursing Home Scheme.
(b) Concerning contributions under the Death Benefit Scheme.
(c) Enclosing a copy of the amended rules of the Society.

BANKING ACCOUNTS

Special Terms to N.A.L.G.O. Members.

Arrangements have been made with the following Banks, viz. Barclays, Lloyds, Midland, National Provincial and Westminster, by which members of the National Association of Local Government Officers may open and conduct Current Accounts at any of the branches of the above banks on special terms. The arrangement applies to the continuance of an existing account or the opening of a new account. No stipulation will be made as to minimum balance to be maintained, and no charge will be made provided the account is kept continuously in credit and the number of cheques drawn kept within reasonable limits.

Any member wishing to obtain this concession must produce at the local branch of the bank selected either his subscription receipt (white) for the current year or the membership subscription card (green) showing that the monthly subscriptions have been paid up-to-date.

KING GEORGE V MEMORIAL

The majority of branches will no doubt be approached by the civic heads of their localities to subscribe to the King George V Memorial Fund and we appeal to branch secretaries to let us know what amounts they subscribe in this way so that a record may be kept at headquarters of the total amount subscribed by N.A.L.G.O. branches to the Memorial Fund. This information should be sent to the General Secretary, N.A.L.G.O., 24, Abingdon Street, Westminster, S.W.1.

The National Union of Teachers voted one thousand guineas to the King George National Memorial Fund. The Union has expressed a wish that £1,000 should be applied to the provision of playing fields, and £50 to the cost of any other memorial which may be decided upon.

KING GEORGE V MEMORIAL

SIR,—Some time ago I ventured to voice the view held by a number of persons, without at the time realizing how numerous or widespread they were, in regard to the national memorial to His late Majesty King George V. The Lord Mayor of London's Committee formed to administer the fund established to provide the memorial had then just decided that it should consist of (a) a statue in Westminster and (b) playing fields throughout the country, a decision that was generally approved.

The view I submitted was that the Government-owned property at the north end of Abingdon Street—Nos. 5, 6, and 7, Old Palace Yard—should be pulled down, and the site used to form an admirable and commanding position for the statue, one affording an extensive open space around, and an extended view of Westminster Abbey behind. The only other alternative was to place the statue in Abingdon Street. This involves a clearance scheme requiring the demolition of much property at great cost because of the necessary payment of heavy compensation to the owners and occupiers of the important business premises in that street.

The Committee has now decided firstly in favour of a site to be provided by an Abingdon Street Clearance Scheme and secondly that the total amount of the subscriptions to the Fund shall be divided equally between (a) the Abingdon Street Clearance Scheme and the statue, and (b) the playing fields throughout the country.

If the Committee have arrived irrevocably at their first decision in favour of an Abingdon Street Clearance Scheme, it is to be hoped that they will reconsider their second decision and allow subscribers especially in the towns and counties outside London the option of specifying whether their contributions are to be divided half and half as the Committee have decided, or, if contributors so determine, that the major part, say three-quarters, will be devoted either to the Abingdon Street Clearance Scheme and statue, or to the playing fields, at their option.

The vast majority of the subjects of His late Majesty King George will endeavour to the best of their ability, out of their affection and regard for him, to contribute something to the Fund for providing a memorial to his revered memory. Many may, however, quite legitimately think, especially if they live in the provinces, that an Abingdon Street Clearance Scheme is, after all, a little outside the scope of a national memorial and ought to be financed in a different way, and not at the expense of the Fund, and may prefer that the greater part of their contributions should be spent on the part of the memorial consisting of playing fields throughout the country. It is not an unreasonable, indeed, a very natural point of view. It would seem wise for the Committee to give it scope for expression as otherwise by denying that, it may seriously militate against the amount of contributions from the provinces.

Yours faithfully,

LYNDEN MACASSEY.

ORDER FORM

"A CENTURY OF MUNICIPAL PROGRESS ——— Price £1 1 0

To the GENERAL SECRETARY, N.A.L.G.O.,
24 Abingdon Street,
Westminster, S.W.1.

". . . must imperatively be read by every local government officer, high or low, as the indispensable basis of his professional culture"—SIDNEY WEBB.

Please send me.....copy(ies) of "A Century of Municipal Progress, 1835—1935" for which I am enclosing a remittance for £ : :

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICE

Editorial Offices: 24, Abingdon Street, Westminster, London, S.W.1. Telephone: Whitehall 9351 (6 lines). Contributions on topical Local Government problems are invited and will receive careful consideration, but the Editor cannot accept responsibility for the safety of manuscripts submitted for his consideration. No payment will be made for contributions unless they are specially requested by the Editor. Authoritative local news on matters having more than a purely local interest is welcomed. Legal and other inquiries relating to Local Government will be answered promptly. All communications should be addressed to THE EDITOR.

Advertisement Offices: A. Darby's Advertising Service, 24-26, Water Lane, London, E.C.4, to whom all advertisement communications should be addressed. Replies to Box Nos. must be sent to A. Darby's Advertising Service. Telephones: City 6686 and 6687. Telegrams: Darbiads, Cent, London.

Friction—Forms—Freedom

A FEW days ago there was a discussion in the House of Lords on the "cost of bureaucracy—a burden on industry." The debate was opened by Lord Mount Temple, who moved "that the cost of bureaucracy and the crushing and complicated burden of compiling returns and making out forms for departmental and local government purposes has increased, is increasing, and ought to be diminished." The noble lord submitted that bureaucracy was having a cramping and crippling effect on individual enterprise, and that it was financially wasteful and extravagant. The mover of the motion exhibited extracted newspaper cuttings which he explained measured thirty-six feet, and represented advertisements which a local authority had been obliged to insert in newspapers circulating in its locality with reference to an order issued by a Minister.

Lord Snell, who is also chairman of the London County Council, argued that while bureaucracy might go too far, on the other hand, archaic inefficiency was worse. If they got freedom from tax by filling up forms, he continued, they did not get freedom from the evading taxpayer or the revenue crook. A person who objected to the filling up of forms would always arouse a generous interest from those who hated to give any services to the State whatever . . . Let them count their blessings as well as their afflictions from the filling up of forms and reflect how dull civic life would be if they were debarred from this patriotic exercise. Lord Snell referred to a letter in the "Times," printed only the day before the debate, in which the writer of the letter boasted that he had filled up 2,000 crossword puzzles. "But," said Lord Snell, "I have a feeling in my bones that this same retired gentleman who had filled up these 2,000 crossword puzzles would grumble terribly if he had to fill up six forms for the country in which he lived."

Public Opinion

The Marquess of Zetland, who replied for the Government, asked who was responsible for the existence of bureaucracy and the millions of forms? Of course, Parliament itself—Parliament directly and public opinion indirectly. "Under modern systems of government," he concluded, "a bureaucracy was essential. The ideal at which to aim was that the civil servants should be the servants and not the masters of the people."

We believe there is an argument in favour of self-examination from time to time of our system of bureaucracy, but it is unfortunate, to say the least, that the issue cannot be raised without dragging in all the old shibboleths and keeping alive the notion that the average businessman is more hampered by government than by his own limitations.

Modern government, especially in this country, is not as restrictive as it could be; it is a compromise to suit the person who understands his social responsibility, and he who does his best to avoid it.

An Ordinary Citizen

The tax collector is just an ordinary citizen like the rest of us. He knows his public and their whims. He is appreciative of the taxpayer who responds to his communications without fuss and with every intention to be truthful. He also has a "nose" for the plausible:

"In Bradford she was Mabel,
She was Marjorie in Perth;
In Sheffield she was Phoebe,
The sweetest thing on earth.

"In London she was Doris,
The brightest of the bunch;
But down in his expenses,
She was petrol, oil, and lunch."

Every government department and every local authority should periodically review its systems and its forms. There is a tendency for the latter to accumulate; they get piled up one on the other as new instructions are found necessary.

Simplify and Reduce Forms

It transpired in the debate in the House of Lords that the number of Army forms had been reduced from 3,400 to 2,100 between the years 1920-1936.

A considerable amount of antipathy to government would be removed if government and local government officers brought into play the systems of the business house, especially in connexion with communications to the public. An official form is a heartless document at the best of times, and it becomes annoying when the wording on the form is authoritative or has a legal complexion. There is no reason why local government should not be "sold" to the public like any other useful and indispensable commodity, and there is no reason on earth why rates should be "demanded."

We often resent the criticism of the "man in the street," but an honest-to-goodness periodical examination of ourselves would reveal that his criticism is influenced far more by little things that we could remedy than by any actualities of government.

Another interesting "pointer" in this direction was given only a day or two ago by Mr. Claude Mullins, the magistrate who sits in London's South-Western Police Court, when he ordered notices such as "No Smoking" to be removed from his court, saying that they were an insult to the intelligence of the public.

These two events may be straws, but they show the way the wind is blowing. The fact of the matter is that the whole range of "officialese" has got to be brought up to date. By-laws, forms, regulations, communications, do's and don'ts must be adapted to the compass of the machine age, twentieth century mind.

The Post Office has made itself popular because it has come off the high horse. Popular education is beginning to have its effect. People are becoming conscious of civic amenities. The whole of the public services, by reason of the fact that they are penetrating more and more into the lives of the people, are, fortunately, being more and more appreciated by the purchasers of those services. The administrators of those services must, therefore, to an increasing extent, act as salesmen of the "goods" being sold to the public by Parliament and by local authorities. The art of the salesman is in getting his customers not only interested in the goods which he has to sell, but keen to purchase them.

Approved Society Annual Meeting

2,000 More Members During 1935

MR. R. W. COPPOCK

A LARGE number of members attended the annual general meeting held on June 26, 1936, at the Guildhall, Nottingham. **Mr. S. Lord,** the president of the society, opened the meeting by referring to the loss which the Approved Society had suffered owing to the recent death of **Mr. J. W. Pickup,** of Blackpool. Mr. Pickup was a trustee of the society, and had served as a member of the Committee of Management, and had carried out the duties of a local correspondent to the society since its inception twenty-four years ago. Mr. Lord added that Mr. Pickup had rendered yeoman service to the society. The sympathy of the meeting was signified by the members standing in silence.

The annual report, presented by **Mr. R. W. Coppock,** Chairman of the Committee of Management, showed that the total investments for 1935 amounted to £198,073, an increase of nearly £7,800 on the previous year. Investments in 1916—the first statistical year—totalled only £928 4s. 11d. Non-cash benefits granted during the year totalled £11,557, of which amount dental treatment accounted for £6,584, and optical treatment £2,879. On referring to the amount of £16,178 spent on cash benefits, Mr. Coppock said it might be wondered why so small a sum had been spent on sickness, disablement, and maternity benefits, but he added: **"In the service we have a remarkably good class of life, and it is through low sickness payments that we are able to accumulate reserves."**

The convalescent home at Matlock had been the means of assisting the recuperation of 335 members, who were in residence for a total period of 742 weeks.

Although the increased membership of 2,000 last year, making a total of 21,929, was gratifying, he thought the present total not yet big enough, considering theirs was a parent association approaching 100,000 members, 60,000 of whom must be insured. He would not be satisfied until there was a greater proportion of those members in the society. Mr. Coppock contended that the report spoke of success and progress from start to finish.

He paid warm tribute to the 448 local correspondents, to whom the society owed a great debt, and stated that he would, at the same time, like to express personally, and also on behalf of the Management Committee, thanks to the Approved Society staff, for the assistance and ever-ready help given during the past year.

Concluding on a personal note, Mr. Coppock said that it was at the Guildhall, Nottingham, and in the same room, that he presented his first report some years ago as chairman of the Committee of Management, and in that room, too, he was presenting his last one in the provinces under the present system. He was referring to the fact that in future the annual general meeting of the society would be held in the town of the annual conference of the parent Association, the ballot which was promised by the chairman at the annual general meeting at Liverpool having resulted in a vote of 5,933 in favour and 3,187 against the annual general meeting being held during the conference week-end.

Mr. Coppock submitted a motion to amend the society's rules to provide for the annual general meeting to be held at the time and place fixed for the annual conference of the National Association of Local Government Officers. After certain amendments had been put and defeated or withdrawn, the meeting confirmed Mr. Coppock's motion.

ADDITIONAL BENEFITS

A motion was submitted by the Glasgow Branch that the additional benefits be increased by such amount as will ensure that the society can compete equally with like societies, and that dental benefit be increased to 100% for treatment and dentures. **Mr. S. H. Brodie,** on behalf of the Glasgow Branch, stated that the motion would be withdrawn on the understanding that the Committee of Management would give careful consideration to the points raised by his branch in the notice of motion. The chairman, while agreeing to accept the suggestion, pointed out that the society had £13,000 to distribute annually, and if they gave 5s. additional cash sickness benefit, as had been suggested, it would absorb, according to the Government Actuary's report, £8,000, leaving less than £5,000 for other purposes. The additional dental benefit suggested would absorb another £2,000, which would only leave £3,000 for the remainder of benefits.

LOCAL CORRESPONDENTS' FEES

Mr. Coppock submitted a resolution that the appointment of local correspondents to the Approved Society be made by the branches, but that all fees and allowances granted for services rendered be made direct to the local correspondents. Mr. Coppock, in proposing the motion, pointed out that the procedure of branches in making payments to local correspondents varied all over the country, and that some correspondents were not receiving the whole of the allowances that were bei made on their behalf by the Approv Society. **Mr. J. Pepper** (Nottingham opposing, pointed out that the Natio Executive Council had given careful co sideration to the question of local cor spondents, and had made a certain requ to which Mr. Coppock's motion w opposed. **He (Mr. Pepper) thought t branches should conform to the Natio Executive Council recommendations, that the funds should go through bran accounts.** Mr. Coppock's motion, on bei put to the meeting, was carried.

Owing to the vacancy created by t death of Mr. Pickup, **Mr. V. Cartlidge** w unanimously elected as a trustee of t society. The following members were al elected to the Committee of Manageme for the year 1936-37: Messrs. H. Summe skill (Liverpool), J. W. Purchon (Leeds F. Wise (Durham), T. E. Brierl (Coventry), S. Crawford (Salford), J. Hubbard (Lancs C.C.), J. E. Crawsha (Blackpool), E. Gentle (London C.C. W. F. Ottewill (Kent C.C.), J. M. Jenki (Glam C.C.), H. N. Snawfield (Oldham B. H. Newcombe (Birmingham).

A hearty vote of thanks was accord to Mr. S. Lord for his services as preside during the past year, the Committee Management for their services during t past year, and to Mr. R. W. Coppock a the Nottingham Branch for arrangemen made for the meeting.

Diploma in Public Administratio

A diploma in public administration h just been instituted at Armstrong Colleg Newcastle-upon-Tyne. Students enterir upon the course must furnish evidence having received a good general educatio and evening students must, in additio prove that it is impossible for them t attend as day students. The course ex tends over a period of three years, and divided into three parts. The probabl fees are 10s. per subject for registratio £3 per subject for tuition, and 10s. pe subject for examination. Further informa tion may be obtained from Mr. L Dowsland, City Education Office, Northum berland Road, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

NOTES ON THE LECTURES given at the Summer Schools at Aberystwyth and Cambridge, are being duplicated. Any members wishing to obtain copies are requested to apply to Headquarters before September 1, stating whether they require notes on the Aberystwyth or Cambridge lectures. One shilling will be charged for each set of notes.

May Examination Results.

INTERMEDIATE GRADE.

Candidate's No.	Name	Department	Authority
1	Allen, A.	Clerk's ...	Middlesbrough C.B.C.
7	Ayling, P. J. C. ...	Clerk's ...	Leicesters. C.C.
8	Backhouse, H. B.	Finance ...	Leicesters. C.C.
9	Barnes, C. B. B. ...	Engineer's ...	Bristol C.B.C.
12	Bielby, F. ...	Water ...	Harrogate B.C.
13	Binks, R. K. ...	Education ...	W. Riding C.C.
20	Brook, N. S. ...	Clerk's ...	York C.B.C.
21	Brooks, C. A. S....	Education ...	Devons. C.C.
22	Brown, I. H. D. ...	Education ...	Leyton B.C.
30	Colbourne, G. M.	Treasurer's...	Willesden B.C.
34	Crampton, W. H.	Education ...	Lindsey (Lincs) C.C.
38	Dobson, E. C. ...	Clerk's ...	WallaseyC.B.C.
41	Fairchild, J. H. ...	Education ...	Lindsey (Lincs) C.C.
42	Fraser, N. P. ...	Baths ...	Glasgow Corp.
47	Gray, L. S. ...	Treasurer's...	Barking B.C.
48	Greaves, G. L. ...	Electricity ...	Colwyn BayB.C.
52	Hill, J.	Clerk's ...	Middlesbrough C.B.C.
53	Hill, J. W. ...	Elec.Engineer's	Cardiff C.B.C.
54	Hinxman, Miss M.	Clerk's ...	South'ptonC.C.
55	Hood, G. ...	Electricity ...	Barking B.C.
60	Johnston, J. R. H.	Clerk's ...	Poole B.C.
62	Kay, A. E. ...	Clerk's ...	StokeNew'gton M.B.C.
63	Kirton, W. H. ...	Engineer's ...	Sunderl'dC.B.C
67	Lord, J. H. ...	Engineer's ...	Braintree and Bocking U.D.C.
70	Mace, E. L. ...	Licences ...	Kent C.C.
74	Morris, F. S. ...	Clerk's ...	Bath C.B.C.
76	Mundy, W. A. ...	Education ...	Southampton C.B.C.
77	Newbery, E. R. ...	Clerk's ...	Dorset C.C.
78	Norman, C. A. ...	Education ...	Southampton C.C.
80	Perrin, U. D. ...	Engineer's	Poplar M.B.C.
84	Riddington, C. ...	Health ...	Willesden, B.C.
85	Roberts, E. J. ...	Clerk's ...	Northampton-shire C.C.
86	Rodgers, F. N. ...	Clerk's ...	Runcorn R.D.C.
88	Schofield, S. O. ...	Treasurer's	Southgate B.C.
91	Stockley, J. ...	Education ...	Acton B.C.
95	Thomas, A. ...	Electricity ...	Cardiff C.B.C.
97	Trott, R. F. ...	Electricity ...	Cardiff C.B.C.
100	Wailes, T. S. ...	Treasurer's...	Darlington C.B.C.
103	Wilmshurst, L. T. G.	Education ...	Southampton C.B.C.
105	Wolsey, W. J. ...	Education ...	Bath C.B.C.
107	Wood, R. L. C. ...	Clerk's ...	Barking B.C.

FINAL GRADE.

Candidate's No.	Name	Department	Authority
151	Addison, T. S. ...	Clerk's ...	Kent C.C.
153	Alderslade, R. J. C.	Clerk's ...	Bristol C.B.C.
158	Burras, G. W. ...	Gas ...	Southport C.B.C.
160	Davies, L. S. ...	Clerk's ...	Bucks C.C.
162	Green, J. G. ...	Clerk's ..	Willesden B.C.
163	Horne, K. A. ...	Clerk's ...	Northampton C.B.C.
166	Menzies, I. ...	Chamberlain's	Perth T.C.
167	Parsons, H. H. ..	HavenMaster's	Bristol C.B.C.
169	Rose, E. V. ...	Clerk's ...	Somerset C.C.
174	Steer, W. S. ...	Education ...	Devon C.C.
175	Stevens, G. ...	Clerk's ...	Bognor Regis U.D.C.
176	Thompson, W. ...	Clerk's ...	Middlesbrough C.B.C.
178	Woodford, S. ...	Gas ...	Southport C.B.C.
179	Yellow, C. W. ...	Collecting ...	Tees Valley Water Board
180	Young, J. ...	Clerk's ...	Kent C.C.

SUMMARY OF RESULTS.

Grade	Passed	Referred in Certain Subjects.	Failed	Total
Intermediate ...	41	43	19	103
Final	15	2	11	28

Course for Intermediate Examination

Commencing on September 29 next, classes for the study of subjects comprised within the Association's intermediate examination will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays at Swan Street, L.C.C. Evening Institute, Minories, E.C.3. The subjects, evenings, times, and instructors are as follows:

Tuesdays: 6.15–7.15 Elements of Statistics
7.15–8.15 „ Economics
Thursdays: 6.15–7.15 Office Practice
7.15–8.15 Local Government and Public Administration.

Enrolment at Swan Street Institute, Monday-Friday, September 21-25, between 6 and 7 p.m.

Fees for the Year—September to July—for the four hours' instruction per week:

	s.	d.
Under 18 years of age	6	3
18 but under 19 years	8	4
19 and 20 years, but under 21	12	0
21 years and over	15	0

Students may join for one evening per week (2 hours). 3s. 9d., 5s., 7s. 6d., or 9s., according to the age groups above.

County Branch Representatives

Aberdeen Meeting: Presentation to Mr. Gee

COUNTY Branch Representatives met in the Music Hall, Aberdeen, on Friday, May 29, 1936, under the chairmanship of **Mr. J. E. Gee,** and on the motion of **Mr. B. R. Dufton** (Kent C.O.), seconded by **Mr. G. A. Stone** (N.E.C. and Worcestershire), **Mr. H. Allen** (N.E.C. and West Riding) was appointed convener for the 1937 meeting.

Mr. Shee (Kent C.O. and S.E. District) introduced the question of Whitleyism and the attitude of the South-Eastern District thereto. In the course of his remarks, which indicated the strong opposition of the South-Eastern Area to the report of the National Executive Council, Mr. Shee stated that if any attempt were made to introduce compulsory Whitley machinery by Bill in Parliament his district would resort to lobbying Members of Parliament against it.

Mr. W. W. Armitage (Chairman N.E.C.) asked leave to intervene and strongly protested against the threat made by Mr. Shee. The chairman of the Council outlined the position with regard to Whitleyism which led up to the report of the National Executive Council and the suggestion of asking Parliament compulsorily to establish Provincial Whitley Councils.

Other delegates expressed views both for and against the National Executive Council's report, following which it was decided that, in view of the fact that this subject was not strictly one for county branches only, the question should be left until the debate in Conference.

AREA EDUCATION COMMITTEES

The Chairman **(Mr. Gee)** referred to the dilatory attitude in many areas regarding the setting up of area education committees, and urged county branches to take a forward line in this direction.

HADOW REPORT

A discussion upon the report regarding the Hadow Committee's recommendations mainly centred round the question of University graduates, and the concensus of opinion was directed against the entry of graduates into the service in senior posts.

With regard to the recommendation contained in the Hadow Report and in Circular 1525 that local authorities should favour the setting up of a Central Advisory Committee, it was unanimously decided that N.A.L.G.O. should insist that this would best be met by a National Whitley Council.

MIDWIVES BILL

Mr. C. B. Bright (Glamorgan C.C.) asked leave to introduce the question of the effect of the Midwives Bill in relation to superannuation. He pointed out that the effect of an influx of short service midwives into the service so far as the weighting of superannuation funds would ensue. The average age of those who would come into the schemes was very high compared with those in the schemes already. He also asked if transfer values were likely to mature in any appreciable number. Following a discussion **Mr. Allen** promised to bring the question up at the next meeting of the National Executive Council, when the additional point that any additional burden should fall upon the Treasury would be made.

PROMOTION SCHEMES FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE OFFICERS

Mr. C. B. Bright asked leave to introduce the suggestion that promotion schemes should be operated for Public Assistance Officers.

It transpired that in Glamorgan a promotion scheme is in operation for all officers other than those in the public assistance department, and **Mr. Bright** desired the National Executive Council to prepare a scheme for general acceptance.

After discussion, during which the position appeared to be one peculiar to Glamorgan, **Mr. Bright** was advised to communicate first with the divisional secretary, who would then advise on any further action thought to be necessary.

It was decided to meet again on the Friday preceding Conference in 1937 at 4 p.m.

PRESENTATION TO MR. J. E. GEE

Mr. G. A. Stone, on behalf of the representatives of county branches, presented **Mr. Gee** with a cheque value £29, subscribed by county branches all over the country. In the course of his remarks **Mr. Stone** paid tribute to the excellent pioneer work performed by **Mr. Gee,** and to the fact that for 17 years **Mr. Gee** had acted as convener of county branch meetings.

Upon **Mr. Gee** rising to respond and to accept the cheque, he was received with vociferous prolonged applause. He thanked the delegates, and intimated that he proposed to purchase a wireless set with the money, and this would enable him pleasantly to be reminded of his associations each evening.

MR. J. E. GEE

Nalgo Building Society

Free Advertising Service

Other members have taken advantage this month of the Society's offer to advertise their houses in these columns free of charge. Any member who desires to sell or let a property which is mortgaged to the Nalgo Building Society can get in touch with other members by means of these facilities. If the Purchaser is a member of N.A.L.G.O. and takes out his mortgage with the Society, a substantial contribution will be made towards his (the purchaser's) legal fees. All advertisements must be received at headquarters by the 15th of the month.

Members of N.A.L.G.O., who are contemplating the purchase of a house are invited to obtain particulars of the advantageous facilities offered by the Nalgo Building Society. The rate of interest on mortgages up to two-thirds of the value is 4¼ per cent and 4½ per cent is charged for advances above that proportion, but reduced to 4¼ per cent from January 1, following the date on which the sum owing is less than two-thirds of the value. In approved cases 100 per cent is advanced at 4½ per cent, repayable over 20 years. Enquiries should be made to the Secretary, 24, Abingdon Street, Westminster, S.W.1.

The N.A.L.G.O. Building Society is prepared to consider advancing to any member of N.A.L.G.O., who purchases the following properties, up to 100% of the value, or the agreed purchase price, whichever be the lower. The calendar monthly cost of the mortgage repayments and rates will be given on application.

UPMINSTER (Essex).—Semi-detached freehold residence in pleasant surroundings. 10 mins. from station. 3 bedrooms, 2 reception rooms, kitchen, bath, etc. Plot 35 ft. by 135 ft. No road charges. Price £775. —Apply Box No. HPB5, c/o 24, Abingdon Street, Westminster, S.W.1.

ROMILEY (Cheshire).—Modern semi-detached freehold. 3 bedrooms, 2 reception rooms, tiled bath and kitchenette. Electric power plugs. Garden set out. Price £480, or near offer. View by appointment.—Apply at 9, Park Road, Romiley, Ches.

NORTH FAMBRIDGE (Essex). — Just completed and ready for immediate occupation. Freehold detached brick-built semi-bungalow. 3 bedrooms, lounge, kitchen, etc. Plot 120 ft. by 300 ft., well stocked with fruit trees, etc. Near station and River Crouch. Good centre for yachting and week-ends. Price £525, or offer.—Apply Yeates, Post Office, North Fambridge, Essex.

MANOR PARK (Essex).—Well-built freehold terrace house in pleasant road. Excellent state of repair. 3 bedrooms, 2 reception rooms, dining room, kitchen, bath, cellar, outside W.C., etc. Price £725. No road charges. Apply Box No. HPB6, c/o 24, Abingdon Street, Westminster, S.W.1.

WOLVERHAMPTON (Staffs.). — Semi-detached freehold. 3 bedrooms, 2 reception rooms, tiled bathroom, veranda, etc. Garage. Plot 34 ft. by 128 ft. Price £550.—Apply Box No. HPB7, c/o 24, Abingdon Street, Westminster, S.W.1.

BLACKPOOL (Lancs.).—Semi-detached freehold, 3 bedrooms, 2 reception rooms, kitchen and scullery, etc. Nice garden, large garage. No road charges. Immediate possession. Price £575, or would let at 18/- per week exclusive.—Apply Box No. HPB8, c/o 24, Abingdon Street, Westminster, S.W.1.

ILFORD (Essex).—1 min. station and buses. Modern semi-detached freehold. 3 bedrooms, 2 reception rooms, kitchen, bath, etc. Garage room. Plot 35 ft. by 135 ft. Decorated to purchaser's choice. Vacant possession Price £675.—Apply Box No. HPB9, c/o 24, Abingdon Street, Westminster, S.W.1.

SHEFFIELD (Yorkshire). — Semi-detached leasehold, built 1935. 2 reception rooms, 3 bedrooms, bath, separate w.c., etc. Vacant possession. 20 mins. station, 1 min. bus. No road charges. Price £500, or offer. Apply at 1, Meadway Drive, Dore, Nr. Sheffield.

PORTLAND (Dorset).—Well-built freehold, detached bungalow. South coast aspect. Plot 45 ft. by 200 ft. 3 bedrooms, large lounge, kitchen, bath, separate w.c. Electricity, h. and c. water. Good garden. No road charges. 3 mins. station ½ hour Weymouth. Vacant September, or by arrangement. Price £950.—Apply at 157, Masterman Road, East Ham, E.6.

NORWICH (Norfolk). — Well - built detached freehold. Thatched roof. Lounge 17 ft. by 12 ft.; dining room, 13 ft. by 10 ft. 6 in.; 3 bedrooms, bath, etc. Domestic boiler. Electricity, gas, etc. Brick garage with inspection pit. Plot 63 ft. by 380 ft. Good bus service. Price £1,100, or near offer. —Apply North View, Thorpe End, Gt. Plumstead, Norwich.

STOUR PROVOST (Dorset)—Attractive, modern detached freehold, well-built bungalow. Pleasantly situated on main road. 2 reception rooms, 2 bedrooms, kitchen, bath, etc. No road charges. 4 miles from Gillingham Station. Buses pass the door. Sale on completion. Price £600, or £640 with electric light.—Apply P. W., 98, Clonmell Road, Tottenham, London, N.17.

On The Turntable

When you have heard the latest "I'se a-muggin" record, played by the Tea-garden Boys and the Trumbauer Swing Band, and presented by Paul Whiteman, you will understand why the number is being sung throughout America by diners-out and dancers. This light, irresistible nonsense is so infectious that having once heard "I'se a-muggin" people will want to hear it again.—H.M.V. BD5063 (b sides).

Roy Fox, whose orchestra has recor "Rise 'n' Shine" (F.T.), from the film that title, and "It's Been So Lor (F.T.), was the first dance-band leade this country to introduce a reed organ i his band. Although used mainly "thickening," it has been introduced i special arrangements. He works very h at recording sessions, and is satisfied o with the best "The Boys" can produce H.M.V. BD5069.

Derek Oldham, who featured in original version of "Rose Marie" at Dr Lane, and has since interested himself film work, has recorded the beaut theme song from "Rose Marie," a "Whisper In Your Dreams," from his n film, "Melody of My Heart."—H.M. B8439.

Moriz Rosenthal, who, in 1912, had distinction of being appointed Co Pianist to the Emperor and Empress Austria, is, at seventy-four, an amaz pianist. Though a veteran in years, piano technique has a youthful vigour, a this is particularly apparent in his m recent recording: "Carneval de Vienne Themes by Johann Strauss." It is his o arrangement and a beautiful one H.M.V. DB2836.

Miliza Korjus is still one of the b sellers of the H.M.V. international artist She has to her credit many famo recordings, and her latest, the well-kno "Bell Song" and the fragrant "Orien Prayer" (both from Delibes' "Lakme will greatly please her many admire Miliza Korjus is accompanied by the Ber State Orchestra, conducted by Bru Seidler-Winkler.—H.M.V. C2839.

JAMES MELTON, who appears in t film "Stars Over Broadway," has record "Where Am I?" ("Am I in Heaven? and "Carry Me Back to the Lone Prairie These two sparkling song numbers, whi are from the production, should make instantaneous appeal.—H.M.V. B.8444.

SAM BROWNE sings "Melody from t Sky," a popular number from the n colour film "The Trail of the Lonesom Pine," also "Lost," on H.M.V. BD.35 These tuneful songs should please Sa Browne fans.

Two songs of totally different categor but which offer pleasing contrast, are su by STUART ROBERTSON (baritone) H.M.V. B.8445. The titles are "T Spanish Lady" and "Limehouse Reach and both are irresistible.

THE BALLYHOOLIGANS revive tw old favourites, "Dinah" (F.T) and "Swe Sue" (F.T.), on H.M.V. BD.5074. The cheerful tunes are cleverly orchestrat and have a nice rhythmic swing.

AL BOWLLY vocalises effectively these new numbers by RAY NOBLE AN HIS ORCHESTRA: "Blazin' the Trail (F.T.), and "Where Am I?" (F.T the last named being from the fil success "Stars Over Broadway."—H.M. BD.5072.

"SWING" MUSIC.

In the Swing Music series four record are offered this month. Of these, one the most representative is "You Starte Me Dreaming" (F.T.) and "Tormented (F.T.) played by WINGY MANNON AND HIS ORCHESTRA. Both numbe have vocal refrains by WINGY MAN NONE.—H.M.V. B.6451.

TO THE NEW JUNIOR OFFICER

—AS A JUNIOR ENTRANT INTO LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICE YOU WILL BE FACED WITH THE PROBLEM OF DECIDING WHICH APPROVED SOCIETY YOU WILL JOIN FOR NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE PURPOSES

YOU SHOULD JOIN A SOCIETY WHICH CATERS SOLELY FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICERS.

Ask for an application form & full particulars of

NALGO APPROVED SOCIETY

24, Abingdon St., S.W.1.

NALGO

Continental

HOLIDAYS

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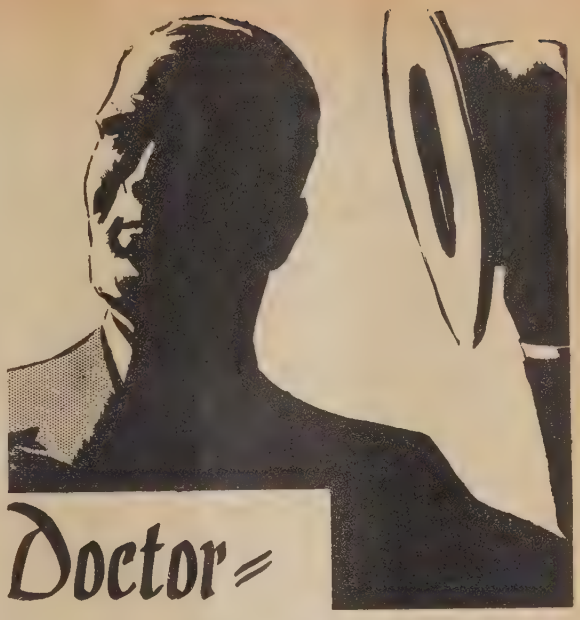

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District Committees

METROPOLITAN

Changes in the personnel of the district committee have recently taken place. Mr. I. A. Jury, Town Hall, Wimbledon, S.W.19, takes the place of Mr. W. H. Lakin as honorary secretary, whilst Mr. S. Whitehead, F.I.M.T.A., F.S.A.A., borough treasurer, Hammersmith, succeeds Mr. C. F. M. Powning as honorary treasurer. A new appointment of honorary social secretary has been created, and Mr. P. W. Bond, A.C.A., Town Hall, Walthamstow, E.17, has been appointed to the position.

The Operatic and Dramatic Society's winter season will open with a play—title to be announced later—at King George's Hall (Y.M.C.A.) on Friday and Saturday, October 30 and 31. Members are asked to make a note of this in their N.A.L.G.O. diaries, and, at the same time, to book Friday, January 29, 1937, for the annual reunion of the district committee at Queen's Hall.

NORTH-WESTERN AND NORTH WALES

A meeting of the North-Western and North Wales District Committee was held at the Town Hall, **Morecambe,** on Saturday, May 23, 1936, under the chairmanship of Mr. W. H. Whinnerah, of Manchester. His Worship the Mayor, Councillor W. Townsley, J.P., welcomed the delegates.

In submitting items of correspondence to the meeting, the honorary secretary drew attention to a list circulated to branches by headquarters giving types of officers who are considered eligible for membership of the Association to be recruited from the ranks of the poor law service. He asked branch secretaries to bring this list to the notice of their executive committees.

The impending retirement of two members of the District Committee, namely, Mr. J. E. Gee, of Lancashire County Branch, member of the National Executive Council, and Mr. J. W. Makinson, of the Preston Borough Branch, was referred to, and a resolution passed expressing the grateful thanks of the District Committee to these two members for the very valuable services they have rendered to the Association generally and the District Committee in particular.

The death of Mr. J. W. Pickup, of the Blackpool Branch, member of the Committee of Management of the Nalgo Approved Society, and member of the District Committee, was reported to the meeting, and the members stood in silence as a mark of respect and remembrance.

SOUTH-WESTERN

At the invitation of the West Cornwall Branch, the District Committee held its quarterly meeting at Falmouth on Saturday, June 20, 1936, under the chairmanship of Mr. C. J. Newman, town clerk of Exeter. Mr. W. W. Armitage, vice-president of the Association, was also present.

The programme opened on Friday evening, when a very successful and largely attended dance was held in the Princess Pavilion. The gardens were prettily illuminated.

At the business meeting of the committee, attended by some forty-six delegates representing twenty branches, the following matters were dealt with:

Area Education Committee. It was evident from the long discussion which took place that branches are very keen to carry out the educational policy of the Association, but a great number of problems are to be faced, owing to the very scattered nature of the district and the difficulty of access of centres of learning where students can attend courses or lectures.

Propaganda Grants were granted to Devon and West Cornwall Branches, and the retention of 40 per cent rebate on subscriptions was recommended in respect of the Devon, West Cornwall, Paignton and District, Somerset and Wiltshire Branches.

Progress. The divisional secretary reported as to the progress which is being made in various parts of the district in regard to the adoption of the Superannuation Act by the smaller authorities

Luncheon

After the meeting, a luncheon was held at the Falmouth Hydro Hotel, Mr. E. P. Skinner (town clerk of Falmouth) occupying the chair.

After the loyal toast had been honoured, Mr. Henry Toy, the chairman of the County Council, proposed "The National Association of Local Government Officers." He remarked that **officials had been styled the new despotism, but society, as it was at present constituted could not go on in an orderly disciplined fashion without men set apart for the specific type of work.** He hoped as they went forward that they would realise their strength and realise more than ever that they were making valuable contributions to the whole of the community.

Acknowledging the toast, Mr. Armitage implored those boroughs in Cornwall that had not yet adopted the superannuation scheme for officers to give it their careful consideration.

In proposing "The Borough of Falmouth," Mr. C. J. Newman heartily thanked the Mayor for the genial way he received them the previous evening, and for his welcome that morning. So far as the Association was concerned, they felt very strongly that the ordinary industrial and commercial markets were not entitled to the best brains, which should be for the benefit of the community at large.

The Mayor assured the gathering that members of public bodies owed a very great deal to their officials for the help given. He thought that sometimes they were apt to sacrifice their officials, and ought to share more of the burdens placed on them.

The health of "The Visitors" was proposed by the chairman, the Mayor of Penrhyn, and the Mayor of Penzance responded.

Proposing the health of "The Chairman," the Mayor of Falmouth paid a tribute of praise to Mr. Skinner. It was a difficult thing to have to sit at meetings and hear members of the council make certain statements and not be able to say anything in return. They heartily appreciated Mr. Skinner and his work. The chairman thanked Mr. F. Baker for his work in making the local arrangements, and Mr. Kelynack, the county secretary, for all they had done. Thanks were also due to Mr. H. E. Tresidder, the borough surveyor.

Among those from whom apologies were received were: The Right Hon. Walter Runciman, M.P. (President of the Board of Trade); Mr. M. Petherick, M.P.; Comdr. P. G. Agnew, M.P.; Messrs. W. E. Lloyd, borough treasurer of Hampstead (president of the Association); L. Hill (general secretary); and W. A. B. Battrick (chairman of the West Cornwall branch).

SOUTH-EASTERN

At the kind invitation of the Mayor and Corporation of Hastings, the South-Eastern District Committee held its summer meeting in the Town Hall, Hastings, on Saturday, July 4.

The committee was very pleased to welcome its chairman (Mr. A. Webb) after his long and serious illness, and expressed the hope that his recovery was thorough and permanent.

The presiding officer (Mr. F. A. Bristow) reported the result of the ballot for election of members to the National Executive Council, and the successful representatives of the district committee, Mr. Altoun and Mr. Baker, were congratulated on their election. Reports on the Aberdeen Conference were given by Messrs. Altoun and Bristow.

The award of the adjudicator on the district committee's essay competition in connexion with the summer school was made known. The essay on "The Relations between the Local Government Officer and the General Public," by Mr. K. Bradbury (West Sussex Branch) was awarded first place, and thereby won the scholarship of £5 5s. awarded by the committee.

The sports secretary gave a report on the progress of the district committee's sports tournaments.

Mr. Baker's report on the work of the B. & O. regional committee revealed that only 55 per cent of the members in the south-eastern district were members of the B. & O. Fund, and he made an urgent appeal to branches to endeavour to secure 100 per cent membership.

The divisional secretary (Mr. F. Thomas) reported a continued increase in membership in the district, and that Dover had secured the adoption of a superannuation scheme under the 1922 Act.

After the meeting, the members were the guests of the mayor and corporation, who very generously provided a lunch at the Albany Hotel, followed by a motor tour to Battle, Rye, and Winchelsea, tea in the White Rock Pavilion, visit to car parks, baths, and bathing-pool, and to the concert party in the evening.

At the lunch the deputy mayor of Hastings welcomed the delegates to the town, and the thanks of the committee were voiced by Mr. H. J. Altoun.

The thanks of the committee are also due to the Hastings Branch and its honorary secretary, Mr. A. K. Vint, for their part in arranging the programme.

Home Gardening

By WALTER P. WRIGHT

Author of "Roses and Rose Gardens," "Alpine Flowers and Rock Gardens," "The Wright Encyclopedia of Gardening," etc.

A CORRESPONDENT who admires the Zonal Geraniums (Pelargoniums) as grown in public parks and gardens thinks that these brilliant plants are unduly neglected by gardening writers. Perhaps they are, although I do not plead guilty personally. The fact is, that in those far-back days when Zonals were the most popular of all bedding plants, a band of influential writers declared them to be overdone, and put in powerful pleas for hardy herbaceous plants as substitutes. There was justification for their attitude, but the reaction they brought about went too far. People who had grown too many Geraniums grew none at all, while writers reduced their attention, in fear of being thought old-fashioned.

Zonals are, however, too intrinsically valuable in gardens and too strongly entrenched in the esteem of the multitude to remain permanently in disfavour, and probably more are grown to-day than there ever were.

My correspondent has not been very successful with his propagation, and so far as last year is concerned, he had many companions in misfortune, among whom were quite a few professionals. The reason was that owing to the summer rains the plants were overladen with sap, and except in cases where great care had been exercised to dry the cuttings before insertion, they damped off wholesale. It is generally advisable to let them lie exposed to full sunshine for several hours before putting them in, and after heavy and continued rains it is absolutely essential.

I still believe in getting fresh stock from cuttings every year if room can be found. It is true that public parks use considerable quantities of old stock year after year, and certainly they get earlier bloom through doing so; but after midsummer the plants are not equal to new material. The superintendents know this, but having to consider economy, they use old stock as well as new. More next month.

Another correspondent refers to some past advice of mine to aim at a fine late display of Roses by "summer pruning" at the June gathering. What exactly did I mean? And is "summer pruning" practicable in August? What I meant was that in gathering a Rose of the early summer crop it is desirable to cut rather low and to a point where there is a bud in the axil of a leaf, because from this bud another good flowering shoot will spring if there is adequate moisture in the soil. It must be clearly understood that such rather low cutting (which, incidentally, gives a useful length of stem with the flower) must not go down to the wood of the previous year; it deals with the shoot of the current year. If the soil is rich and moist, early August is not too late; otherwise it is.

Many useful bedding plants, including Ageratums, Gazanias, Lobelias, Nepetas (Catmint), Heliotrope, Alyssum, Marguerites, Petunias, Verbenas, and Antirrhinums may be increased by cuttings at this time of year, equally with Zonals, but should not be sun-dried before insertion, as advised for the latter. I say they may be so increased, but I am not prepared to recommend it to amateurs with very limited glass accommodation, which would be needed, if only in the form of frames, to carry quantities of young stock through the winter. Taking Antirrhinums as an example, it would be worth while to pursue the plan if strong plants were needed for blooming in a mildly heated greenhouse next May, but not if stock was only required for next year's summer flowerbeds. While such plants as those named can be bought so cheaply in boxes in May, sturdy, well-rooted, and just right for planting, limited glass space can be made better use of.

In this connexion I might add that amateurs who want to furnish a small greenhouse mainly with annuals to bloom next spring can do great things with Clarkias, Salpiglossis, Schizanthus, and Sweet Peas alone by sowing in a frame or greenhouse towards the end of the present month. All are easily managed, and with a little considered blending of colours when they come into bloom charming harmonies can be obtained.

With respect to Pansies, Violas, Pentstemons, and herbaceous Calceolarias, busy people, or those starting on holidays, will be relieved to know that September is early enough for propagation. Do not neglect to keep Dahlias floriferous by trapping earwigs, tying, and watering.

I wonder whether some of my readers are Lavender-lovers, but having only small gardens hesitate to plant so robust a shrub? If there are such, let me put in a word for the Munstead type, because it is dwarf and makes a compact shrub suitable for the smallest of gardens. Not only so, but it flowers very freely, and the colour is rich. It may or may not be considered a further advantage that it blooms a few weeks earlier than the ordinary Lavender.

There are two valuable hardy plants which cause worry to certain of my friends and neighbours—Hollyhocks and Lilium candidum—because they get so terribly disfigured by disease. Bordeaux Mixture checks Hollyhock disease, if used early enough, and can be bought quite cheaply from most dealers in gardening sundries. Unfortunately, it does not do equally good service with Lilies, and liver of sulphur must be resorted to if a fungicide is to be used at all. Some years ago we were advised to lift the bulbs and shake them up in a paper bag containing flowers of sulphur, so that the powder could work its way into the scales. I did not find this effectual.

Bridge Forum

By NEVILLE HOBSON

A few evenings ago I was in a c where four men were playing argumen tive Bridge. North and South, a winning the first game, bid a part score 3 Spades when vulnerable. The Contr should have been made, but South play the hand carelessly, and only scored tricks.

In the next game North played t hands at 2 No Trumps, which he ma He then observed to his partner: "It's l luck you didn't get your Contract l game, as this would have given Rubber."

This was said in an aggressive way, a —as South resented it—North attempted justify his remark by saying: "W partner, we won't talk about it any mo but if you had made your 3 Spades would have taken the rubber and collect about 800 points."

It cannot be denied that (ignoring t question of the propriety of criticisms this kind), such a statement has apparen much to warrant it. On the face of thin North and South—having made th Contract of three in the second game would have bid and made their 2 Trumps against any possible defence.

Fallacy: Admittedly, there are ma situations where matters would doubtl have turned out as suggested by Nort but there are numerous types of han where—had East and West been a ga down, and up against a part score of 90 they would have over-bid their hands a declined to "go quietly."

Shaded Calls: The next time you s four good players bidding, count the nu ber of times a player looks at his ha and momentarily considers the possibili of a bid. In the absence of circumstanc calling for boldness, most players—partic larly when vulnerable—will refrain fro bidding unless the prescribed 2½ hono tricks are held with an appropria biddable suit or a distribution suitable f No Trumps. The moment, however, player of experience realises that t opposition is within hail of a possib rubber, he will be tempted to bid a su or declare No Trumps on a somewhat th hand. Whenever a bold declaration this kind is made, its effect upon th opponents who are themselves vulnerab is very marked, particularly at certa vital stages of the bidding.

Shuffling: It is, moreover, often ove looked that—though the cards hav normally, been shuffled during the deal the previous game—the other players ha the right to shuffle also, the dealer havi the last claim. This right is not usuall exercised, but the fact that the cards ha been running badly for any particular si is the most frequent cause for a claim shuffle being made.

One final word: If your partner goes sleep over the play of a hand, leave hi alone. He will be just as alive to h failure to obtain his Contract as you ar and anything which upsets him will redu his efficiency when it comes to the strugg to win or save the rubber. I have, hov ever, attempted to show that there a other reasons than the decencies of th game for refraining from such criticism.

. H. Williams, Merthyr Tydfil, to Assistant Rate Collector, Billericay U.D.C.
. F. R. Steele, Wolverhampton, to Architectural Assistant, Huddersfield.
. J. Baker, Derby, to Sanitary Inspector, Birmingham.
r. T. A. Cecil, Porthcawl, to Surveyor's Assistant, Paignton U.D.C.
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r. J. Hankey, Newcastle-under-Lyme, to Sanitary Inspector, Millom R.D.C.
r. R. H. Mason, Newark, to Accountancy Assistant, Peterborough.
r. C. J. Taylor, Hereford C.C., to Relieving Officer, Norfolk C.C.
r. A. Pledger, Newark, to a post in the Sewage Department, East Barnet U.D.C.
r. T. G. S. Green, Chesterfield R.D.C., to Engineering Assistant, Rochdale.
r. E. H. Heeley, Northants C.C., to an Assistant Public Assistance Officer, Kent C.C.
Ir. J. Nichols, Burton-upon-Trent, to Engineering Assistant, Watford.
Ir. J. Dolman, Salop C.C., to a post under the Bedford C.C.
Ir. P. Parr, Sutton Coldfield, to Borough Engineer and Surveyor, Beckenham.
Ir. J. R. Garrett, Birmingham, to Steward, County Hospital, Farnborough, Kent C.C.
Ir. C. F. Unwin, East Kesteven R.D.C., to a post in the Borough Engineer's Department, Poole.
Ir. H. C. Wright, Walsall, to Assistant Collector, Rates Department, Carshalton U.D.C.
Ir. G. E. Payne, Worcester C.C., to Assistant Town Planning Officer, Gloucester C.C.
Ir. K. J. Humphries, Derby C.C., to Assistant Relieving Officer, Rotherham.
Ir. G. Wood, Cardiff, to Committee Clerk, Esher U.D.C.
Ir. H. Bishop, Holland C.C., to a post under the River Ouse Catchment Board.
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Ir. L. Holiday, Lancaster, to Engineering Assistant, Morecambe and Heysham.
Ir. E. W. Raby, Bingley, to Borough Treasurer, Heywood Corporation.
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Ir. J. Hankey, Newcastle (Staffs), to Sanitary Inspector, Millom U.D.C.
Ir. A. H. Nicholson, Bingley, to Assistant Gas Engineer, Colne.
Miss D. Donkin, Southgate, to Health Visitor and School Nurse, Whitehaven.
Mr. L. L. Pownall, Bootle, Chief Architectural Assistant, Wallasey.
Mr. E. C. Beadle, Southport, to Rate Collecting clerk, Finance Department, Lewisham.
Mr. T. G. S. Green, Chesterfield, to Engineering Assistant, Rochdale.
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Mrs. Milburn, Batley, to Health Visitor, Chester.
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Mr. J. R. Brown, Bebington, to Junior Engineering Assistant, Cheshire C.C.
Mr. K. E. Cotton, Colwyn Bay, Engineering Assistant, Luton.
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Mr. I. S. Webster, West Lancs, to Assistant Surveyor, Rayleigh U.D.C.
Mr. E. Berry, Huddersfield, to Assistant Master, Holgate Institution, Middlesbrough.
Mr. G. E. Bousfield, Todmorden B., to Assistant Sanitary Inspector, Wolverhampton.

Movement of Members

Mr. B. Collins, West Hartlepool, to Senior Audit Assistant, Scunthorpe and Frodingham U.D.C.
Mr. Norman J. Ellis, Dewsbury, to Committee Clerk and General Assistant, Wakefield C.B.
Mr. Frank H. G. Fox, Dewsbury, to Assistant Engineer, Lanarkshire C.C.
Mr. W. Gowling, Durham Co., to Engineering Assistant, West Riding C.C.
Mr. M. C. Harrison, West Hartlepool, to Chief Engineering Assistant, Tynemouth C.B.
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Miss V. Helliwell, Halifax, to Cook-Foster Mother, Coventry Education Committee.
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Mr. J. Kenneth Teasdale, Bishop Auckland Sub-Branch of Durham Co., to 3rd Assistant Clerk, East Retford R.D.C.
Mr. S. Turnbull, Middlesbrough, to Assistant Clerk and Steward, Stannington Mental Hospital, Gateshead.
Mr. S. Tweedie, Middlesbrough, to District Sanitary Inspector, Bournemouth.
Mr. S. C. A. Webb, L.L.B., Sheffield, to Secretary to the Chepping Wycombe Education Committee.
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Mr. J. Page, Willesden B.C., to 1st Grade Clerk, Education Department, West Sussex C.C.
Mr. W. J. Hill, Willesden B.C., to Chief Librarian, Beddington and Wallington U.D.C.
Mr. R. S. Tilly, Wandsworth M.B.C., to Clerk, Battersea M.B.C.
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Mr. F. G. D. Adams, Hants C.C., to Grade IV Clerk, East Sussex.
Mr. J. H. Newman, Shoreham (Br.), to Surveyor's Clerk, East Grinstead.
Miss Nicholson, Torquay, to Clacton-on-Sea.
Mr. J. Sole, Broadstairs, to Clerk, Surveyor's Department, Chigwell U.D.C.
Mr. W. J. Mills, Guildford, to Engineering Assistant, Peterborough.
Mr. W. H. L. Godsalve, West Sussex, to County Treasurer's Department, Cheshire.
Mr. E. W. Sherlock, Sevenoaks R.D.C., to General Clerk, Cheltenham R.D.C.
Mrs. J. H. Armitage, West Cornwal (Br.), to Health Visitor, Devon C.C.
Mr. W. H. Buchanan, Exeter, to Road Foreman, Bromley.
Mr. W. R. Watkin, Devon C.C., to Education Secretary, Glos. C.C.
Mr. D. J. B. Edmonds, Canterbury, to Housing Assistant, Lewes.
Mr. K. F. Hudson, Canterbury, to Assistant Sanitary Inspector, Hatfield.
Mr. G. C. Page, Canterbury, to Town Planning Assistant, Torquay.
Miss Tandy, Bournemouth, to Manageress, Poole.
Mr. W. H. Moulsdale, Reigate, to Building Inspector, Shoreham U.D.C.
Mr. H. Lowe, Durham, to Junior Engineering Assistant, Blackburn C.B.C.
Mr. S. J. Day, St. Helens, to Engineering Assistant, Sheffield C.B.C.
Mr. T. Johnston, River Ouse Catchment Board, to Cheshire Rivers Catchment Board, Cheshire C.C.
Mr. F. J. Smith, St. Helens, to City Surveyor and Water Engineer, Peterborough M.B.
Mr. G. G. B. Nobbs, Holland C.O. Br., to Cheshire C.C.
Mr. J. E. Colley, Birkenhead, to Architectural Assistant, Widnes M.B.
Mr. T. B. Hill, Huddersfield, to Engineering Assistant, Nelson M.B.
Miss E. Brown, Bootle, to Health Visitor, Staffordshire C.C.
Mr. A. Young, Bootle, to Sanitary Inspector, Manchester C.B.C.
Mr. F. N. Booth, Wallasey, to Gas Engineer, Keighley M.B.
Mr. H. Joliffe, Bolton, to Libraries Assistant, Leicester C.B.C.
Mr. J. Blakeley, Leigh, to Sanitary Inspector, Colne M.B.C.
Mr. J. E. Smeddles, Westmorland, to Junior Engineering Assistant, Gloucester M.B.
Mr. J. H. Kennerley, Hindley, to Engineering Assistant, Widnes M.B.
Mr. J. T. Taylor, Cheshire C.O., to Chief Veterinary Officer, Gloucester M.B.
Mr. T. C. H. Bateson, Bootle, to Engineering Assistant, Wakefield C.B.C.
Mr. F. C. Westley, Lancashire C.C., to Accountant Clerk, Public Assistance Department, Sheffield C.B.C.
Mr. H. S. Senior, Hazel Grove, to Surveyor's Department, Wakefield C.B.C.
Mr. R. Roberts, Liverpool, to Accountancy Assistant, Wallasey C.B.C.
Mr. A. Shaw, Runcorn, to Engineering Assistant, Leicester (Blaby R.D.C.).
Mr. J. M. Wallace, Leeds, to City Engineer's and Surveyor's Department, Manchester C.B.C.
Mr. W. Whitfield, Irlam, to Assistant Sanitary Inspector, Barnstaple M.B.
Mr. J. H. Wilkin, Preston, to Deputy Borough Treasurer, St. Helens C.B.C.

General Literature

By JONAS PRAPS

Lives of Great Men

"**Trekking On,**" by Deneys Reitz (Faber, 15s.), is worthy of more than passing note. It records in simple but forceful language the actual experiences of the man who, as a youth, fought against the English in the Boer War. He later became convinced of the need for unity between Dutch and English in building a new South Africa. The book is a sequel to "Commando," Reitz's journal of the Boer War, and tells the story of the Civil War in the Union, of his fighting on the side of General Smuts, and later in France on the side of England in the Great War. A book which should not be overlooked. —— D. Erskine Muir's "**Machiavelli and His Times**" (Heinemann, 10s. 6d.) is worth reading—many of the problems Machiavelli had to face have a present-day significance. The book not only gives a picture of the man and the great historical figures—Savanarola, Cesare Borgia, etc. — with whom he was brought in contact, his writings and political theories, but has some important chapters upon the art of war, finance, and the reform of the constitution. —— Another fine biography is that of Marcelle Vioux's "**Henry of Navarre**" (Bles, 10s. 6d.). It is in narrative form and reads as easily as a novel. The story of a reasonably tolerant monarch when intolerance and bigotry usually reigned supreme. —— Those who are interested in the study of politics will not miss Hesketh Pearson's "**Labby: the Life and Character of Henry Labouchere**" (Hamilton, 10s. 6d.). —— I could fill my space with notes on excellent biographies, but brief references to two others must suffice: both very good. Stanley Jackson's "**Rufus Isaacs: First Marquess of Reading**" (Cassell, 12s. 6d.), and C. E. Vulliamy's excellent "**Mrs. Thrale of Streatham**" (Cape, 12s. 6d.).

Fiction

Recent weeks have not been productive of novels of outstanding merit. Among those which I have come across may be noted: O'Neill's "**Day of Wrath**" (Gollancz, 7s. 6d.), a somewhat grisly picture of a war in 1952; a thriller of the diplomatic intrigue order in "**Scar 77,**" by Graham Seton (Methuen, 7s. 6d.); a story of a Society man who studies social conditions in South Wales, "**Private Stars,**" by Peter Stucley (Selwyn, 7s. 6d.). The most important is Vincent Sheean's "**Sanfelice**" (Hamish Hamilton, 8s. 6d.), an historical story dealing with the Jacobin revolution in Naples in 1799.

Other Countries

It is unusual to meet nowadays with a book about soldiering which is free from the World War, but in "**Old Soldier Sahib**" Private Frank Richard (Faber, 7s. 6d.) tells very interestingly his peace-time experiences in the British Army in England, India, and Burma. —— Shane Leslie's "**American Wonderland**" (Joseph, 18s.) is a keen if critical appreciation of American people and institutions based upon memories of four tours between the years 1911-1935. —— Richard Halliburton's "**Seven League Boots**" (Bles, 16s.) carry him over the Alps into Abyssinia, Russia, and Arabia. They allow him an extended halt, in which he details the last days of the unfortunate Romanoffs.

For the Tourist at Home

There are hundreds of descriptive works of interest to those who wish to know something of the places they are visiting. Two recent ones are Joan Begbie's "**Walking in Dorset**" (Maclehose, 7s. 6d.) and "**Wensleydale,**" by Ella Pontefract (Dent, 6s.). But there are others which will increase one's general interest and add to a holiday's pleasure and profit, such as Dorothy R. Hartley's "**The Countryman's England**" (Batsford, 7s. 6d.)—an appreciation of the countryside, its native folk and local customs. "**A Key to English Architecture,**" by T. D. Atkinson (Blackie, 5s.), deals with types of architecture from Saxon to modern times. H. S. L. Winterbotham's "**A Key to Maps**" (Blackie, 5s.) will add to one's interest in these essential adjuncts to the tourist's equipment; and those who are doing their trips in spartan fashion will get help from Gipsy Petulengro's "**Romany Hints for Hikers**" (Methuen, 2s.).

Unclassifiable

Mr. J. Penn's "**For Readers Only**" (Chapman & Hall, 10s. 6d.) is for the dilettante in literature. It is a quaint but very delightful description of people he has seen or met in the British Museum and of incidents associated with his visits.

Literary Guide Books

The guide book which is written in good English and contains literary and artistic associations seems now to be more generally popular than Baedeker—for all his masterly range and inexorable detail.

E. V. Lucas reaped a rich harvest from the writing of such guide books, while H. V. Morton has found in them, one imagines, a veritable gold-mine.

The most recent recruit to this type of lietrature is Mr. Russell Green, whose "**Dreamers in Venice**" has just been published by Nelsons.

It has been said that Venice is of all the cities in the world the one which those who have never seen it know best, and certainly, after reading Mr. Green's book, which is illustrated by 86 photographs taken by himself, we cannot fail to feel that we know Venice, whether we have actually been there or not. For those who wish to enjoy the full richness of that romantic city with its palaces, its lagoons, gondolas, and bridges, whether in an all too short holiday or in their armchairs at home, "**Dreamers in Venice**" is the best possible sort of guide book.

Some Other Books

"**Facts and Figures of the City o Pretoria**" is a booklet which has bee compiled with the object of providing convenient pocket reference containing fact and figures in regard to the City's finances It is a very handy little *vade mecum* and i both instructive and useful, providing dat about a city whose population has increase from 63,000 to 91,000 in the course of te years. My old friend Paul V. Betters ha been doing some good publicity work for th United States Conference of Mayors. Hi "**City Problems of 1935**" being the annua proceedings of the United States conferenc of Mayors and his "**Recent Federal-Cit Relations,**" whose main purpose is to trac the development of the new and direct federa city contacts which sprang into being durin the depression, but also includes some of th more recent examples of informal co-operatio between federal agencies and cities, are bot documents which are good to look at, interest ing to read and easy to handle. But why di he not put the titles on the back of the books They would then have been so much easie to find in one's library. Nearer home th development officer of Coventry deserves pat on the back for his magnificent "**Director of Coventry manufacturers, 1936-1937.**" It is not often, I am sorry to say, that municipal publication compares at all favour ably with a publicity stunt engineered b groups of private manufacturers, but th Coventry brochure can take its place with th best of them in design, arrangement an execution. It would, I believe, be easier t find out how many people do not kno J. J. Clarke's "**Local Government of th United Kingdom**" (Pitman, 15s.), then t find out how many people do know it. M J. R. Howard Roberts, in his foreword, say that local government cannot remain stati One can say the same thing about this gol mine of information on local government The chapters on grants-in-aid have bee re-written and extended to meet the needs o the increased number of students and reader who require detailed knowledge of this subject Taken all in all, it is one of the books whic are essential both to the student and to th critics. I am sorry I cannot say the same thin about E. L. Hasluck's "**Local Governmen in England**" (Cambridge University Press 12s. 6d.). It seems to perform no function a all. It doesn't tell the student what he woul like to find out; it tries to be a bit too technica for the man in the street—the consume of local government—and it is not sufficientl accurate to be a good work of reference for th practising officer. In fact, here and there on senses a cheap sneer and wonders whether th author has not been a disappointed candidat in a ward election. Mr. D. N. Chester of th Economics Research Section University o Manchester has done rather a useful thing i publishing under the title of "**Public Contro of Road Traffic and Transport**" (Man chester University Press, 8s. 6d.) a study in th administration and economics of a fairly wid field of modern transport problems. It is, think, something new in the field of researc and the issues raised by the operation o publicly controlled industries, such as, fo what reasons was it considered desirable an practicable to impose public control? wha methods were adopted to established tha control? what effects upon the structure o the industry are to be discerned? what gain have in consequence accrued to the consume in the form of cheaper and better goods an services? and, most important of all, wha substitutes can the public utility find for tha desirable constant pressure causing increasin efficiency which a competitive industr generates spontaneously? are examine critically and in detail and are answere lucidly. With his conclusion I think we wil

greer " The task still remains of creating he road traffic and transport industry, safe- ds against undue conservatism." Another il piece of work for which the Manchester versity Press should take some credit in ishing is **" Co-ordination and Planning he Local Authority,"** by H. R. Page, ., of the city treasurer's department, chester. There are six chapters and en appendices and the author has con- rated his attention on a scrutiny of the l authority and a minute scrutiny it is. ; is a book not only for the student of inistration but for the administrator him- and it is warmly recommended to those stantly trying to find the answer to the question: " How can local authorities k be best organised ? " The University ss of Liverpool has just published a piece esearch work by Mr. D. Caradoq Jones er the auspices of the Statistics Division the Social Science Department of the versity of Liverpool, on the **" Relief of Poor."** It continues the story of public stance that is told in Chapter IV of Vol. 3 he " Social Survey of Mersey-side " and xamines the problem of whose responsibility to afford relief to different classes of the mployed poor. This is naturally related the problem of industrial development, ticularly in the distressed areas. So far ocal authorities are concerned, their problem be eased when the second appointed day ves, but nevertheless they will still have ne a grossly unfair proportion of the cost keeping together the bodies and souls of se who have only their labour to sell in a rket which does not require it. Research ms to be on the upgrade somehow. F. D. ngender has just produced **" Clerical bour in Great Britain "** (Martin Lawrence 6d.), in which he attempts to fill a con- uous gap in the literature of social condi- as. I am afraid he has not filled the gap well, for there seem to be many untidy ls to his study; his arguments have not been rounded off properly and so far as local government officers are concerned, he has done less than justice to the history of their salary scales and to the long campaign which has been waged to improve them. But it is a new type of book and provides some very useful information, hence I would recommend it as the starting point of research into a problem which is becoming more and more urgent every day. University Tutorial Press has just published a very nice little book at 2s. 6d. entitled **" Citizenship : Its Rights and Duties,"** by W. D. Aston, M.A., LL.M., and Percy Jordan, Ph.D., B.Sc. The book gave me the impression that it had been written primarily for older school children, and perhaps for evening school students, but it should serve a much wider purpose than that. It is one of the neatest little books I have ever seen for introducing the subject of citizenship to the enquiring mind; it should have a very wide appeal to those who want to know " how am I governed ? why am I governed ? what can I do ? what do I get ? " The **" American Municipal Year Book "** has come on by leaps and bounds and editors Clarence E. Ridley and Orin F. Nolting should be proud of themselves. It is reaching such dimensions now that I would recommend the editors to model future issues on the lines of our own Municipal Year Book. The extra trouble involved will be of benefit to the users of the book and will bring down blessings upon the heads of the editors. If you should be interested in American government then write to the International City Manager's Association, Chicago, for a copy of " The Municipal Year Book, 1936." You won't need anything else until the 1937 edition appears. **" Roads and Road Construction Year Book and Directory, 1936-1937 "** (Carriers Publishing Company, 68-69, Shoe Lane, E.C.4, 10s. 6d. net) contains some extraordinarily useful information on new construction work, research, and road accidents.

INCORPORATED ASSOCIATION OF RATING AND VALUATION OFFICERS

The Lancashire and Cheshire Students' Society has made provisional arrangements with the Manchester education committee for the formation at the Manchester Municipal High School of Commerce of lecture courses covering the intermediate and final examinations of the Association. It is intended, provided a sufficient number of applications are received, that the courses should commence in September next and terminate in April, 1937. This is an entirely new feature of the society's activities, and one which should be welcomed by those who are desirous of obtaining at a reasonable figure highly specialised personal instruction with the object of securing the Association's certificates which are becoming increasingly recognised as the hall-mark of success in the profession. Those interested in the scheme should communicate without delay with the honorary general secretary and treasurer, 77, Princess Street, Manchester 2.

NALGO MOTORING ASSOCIATION

The Royal Automobile Club has issued a reminder and warning to new motorists. Whilst appreciating the fact that some persons driving unaccompanied in cars bearing learner-plates may be fully qualified, the R.A.C. reminds holders of provisional licences that until they have passed the driving test they must not drive a car on a public highway unless accompanied by someone who has held a driving licence for at least two years, or who has himself passed the driving test.

New Divisional Secretary

Mr. W. Cecil Wood, senior clerk in the ages section of the Leeds Corporation ectricity Department, has been appointed visional secretary of the North-Eastern d Yorkshire Districts in succession to r. J. B. Swinden, who, as reported in the ne issue of LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICE, d been promoted to the position of ganising secretary.

Mr. Wood is a chartered secretary, and r the past nine years has held an appoint- ent as lecturer at Leeds Municipal College Commerce. For the past five years he s acted in a similar capacity at Harro- te Technical Institute. He is the author f the third and fourth editions of Cole's Guide for the Company Secretary."

An active member of the Leeds Branch, Ir. Wood is vice-chairman of the Execu- ve Committee, education correspondent, epresentative of the Establishment Sub- ommittee of the Leeds City Council, hairman of the Building Society sub- ommittee, chairman of the Approved ociety sub-committee, an honorary auditor of the Yorkshire District Committee, and a member of the area education committee. He has represented his branch at conference on several occasions.

In offering our congratulations to Mr. Wood, we hope that he will have a long period of very successful administration in his new sphere.

ASSOCIATION FOR EDUCATION IN CITIZENSHIP

The annual report of the Association for Education in Citizenship for the year 1935-1936 shows that the individual membership has increased to nearly 800.

The most important events in the Association's history during the year have been the publication of its two books, " Education for Citizenship in Secondary Schools " and a " Bibliography of Social Studies."

The pamphlet " Training for Citizenship," published in April, 1935, has continued to go well. Four thousand copies in all have been printed, and just over 100 of these remain a second reprint is therefore now called for.

Since Christmas the Training College Committee has been considering the best method to adopt in the compilation of a report on education for citizenship in training colleges and University training departments. A most successful conference was held at Digswell Park, Welwyn, in the spring, to bring together those likely to be interested in this task.

The Elementary Schools Committee has been pursuing the task it set itself last year of collecting schemes of work in use in central and senior schools, with a view to their publication. A large number of contributions have been received, and the work of editing and co-ordinating these has been undertaken by a sub-committee under the chairmanship of Mr. H. J. Dean.

A library for the use of members of the Association has been opened, and the majority of the books recommended in the bibliography, with relevant books published since the bibliography lists were closed, are now available.

The collection of information has proceeded steadily, and the Association has a very fine collection of schemes of all kinds dealing with training in citizenship. Enquiries continue to come in from all parts of this country, and to a certain extent also from abroad.

OBITUARY

THE LATE MR. T. C. EVANS

We regret to record the death of **Mr. T. C. Evans,** of the Glamorgan County Council staff, at the age of 61. He was an original member of N.A.L.G.O. in South Wales and had held the office of honorary treasurer of the Glamorgan Branch for many years. He was the honorary secretary of the South Wales Regional Committee and a member of the Management Committee of the B. & O. Fund from the formation of the Fund until the end of 1934 when ill-health compelled him to resign from both offices. Possessing a charming personality, Charlie Evans was a popular figure in South Wales local government circles. A keen "Nalgoite," he took great pride in the growth of the Association, making the B. & O. Fund his special interest. Only last year the South Wales branches presented him with a cheque and a handsome radiogram in appreciation of his many and valuable services.

Our sympathy is also extended to the relatives of **Miss D. M. Lyon** of the Public Libraries Department, Hendon, who died on June 2 last.

We much regret to record the death of **Mr. F. T. Levens,** clerk to the Bromsgrove Urban District Council. Mr. Levens was appointed clerk to the North Bromsgrove Urban District Council in 1912, and when the present Bromsgrove Urban District Council was formed in 1933, he became clerk to that authority. Mr. Levens was president of the Bromsgrove Branch and prior to the formation of the Branch had for many years been a member of N.A.L.G.O.

EDUCATIONAL TOUR
TO
CANADA & AMERICA
1937

In view of the great success of the visits to municipal enterprises in the Northern Capitals last year a most interesting Tour to Quebec, Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto, Niagara, and New York is being arranged

Leave Liverpool 30th July per "Antonia"
Return Southampton 24th August per "Brittanic"

Inclusive £75 cost
(*approx.*)

N. A. L. G. O.
24, Abingdon St., Westminster, S.W.1

Camaraderie

CONGRATULATIONS

Mr. John Chaston, the chairman of the Education Committee, was, at the annual conference of the Society of Clerks of Urban District Councils held at Malvern, elected president of the Society for the second year in succession.

On the occasion of the completion of 25 years' service as town clerk of Middlesbrough, **Mr. Preston Kitchen** was presented by his staff on June 30, with a framed photograph of the members of the town clerk's staff, and an early Victorian solid silver fruit stand, with an engraved decoration suitably inscribed.

Mr. A. E. Gilfillan, the deputy town clerk, who presided at the ceremony, stated that the Town Council had decided to make Mr. Kitchen a Freeman of the Borough at a later date.

Mr. C. F. Bosher, chief clerk, in making the presentation stated that he and the staff generally had always received from Mr. Kitchen guidance and wise counsel.

The Mayor, Councillor A. Elstrop, described the town clerk as the finest centre-forward Middlesbrough had ever had.

After the presentation to the town clerk, two lady members of the staff proceeded to the town clerk's house and presented to Mrs. Kitchen, who is at present recovering from a very serious illness, a bouquet to mark the occasion.

MR. A. W. CLARKE

Mr. A. W. Clarke, a member of the Tottenham Branch, has secured first place at the 1936 final examination of the Chartered Surveyor's Institution. The Institution has awarded him the "Penfold Gold Medal" and the "Driver Prize." He has also secured the "Wainwright Prize" for the best Intermediate and Final combined results. In 1931 Mr. Clarke obtained first place in the Institution's intermediate examination, and on that occasion was awarded the "Penfold Silver Medal" and the "Driver Prize," the latter prize in that year being awarded for the best performance by a non-student candidate. Mr. Clarke is 28 years of age.

NEW BRANCHES

The staff of the **Huyton-with-Roby** Urban District Council have formed a separate branch of the Association to function as from June 1, 1936. It is hoped at a later date to include the staff of a neighbouring authority.

The officers of the **Penarth** Urban District Council have formed a Branch from June 1.

The officers of the Borough of **Stourbridge** have formed a Branch from July 1, with a commencing membership of 50.

The officers of the **Amersham Rural and Chesham Urban District Councils** have formed a branch with a commencing membership of 25.

RETIREMENTS

At the Kirkdale Homes, Liverpool, a pleasing ceremony was recently performed at the presentation to **Mrs. L. P. Hughes,** the acting master and matron, on the occasion of her retirement from the service. A display cabinet, mirror, vase and tea waggon were presented by the staff, and a handbag by the inmates.

The presentation was made by Mr. H. Blythe, assistant master, who stated they could not too highly praise the splendid and earnest services rendered by Mrs. Hughes during her 26 years in the service, and especially the loyal, courteous and kind attention which had been given to the staff and inmates at the homes.

Mrs. Hughes suitably and feelingly expressed her deep thanks for the gifts.

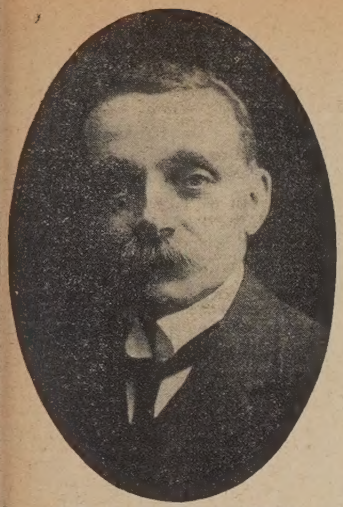
Mr. H. A. Wallace, markets superintendent, Derby, will be retiring from the service on August 12. He was foreman and collector at Leicester from October, 1896, until March, 1908, when he took up his present position, and has thus completed almost 40 years' local government service. Mr. Wallace was largely instrumental in the formation of the Midland and Southern Market Authorities' Association in 1919, and was its first honorary secretary, relinquishing office only this year. This association now numbers 80 authorities, and, with a Northern Market Authorities' Association with a similar membership, the whole of England, Scotland, and Wales are covered.

One of the earliest pioneers in the cause of N.A.L.G.O., Mr. Wallace was appointed honorary secretary of the Derby Branch in 1908, and continued in that office for many years. He has been a vice-president of the Branch since the War, with the exception of the two years, 1924 to 1926, when he was president. He was vice-chairman of the District Committee in 1911-1912, chairman, 1912-1913, and, since 1916, has been an honorary auditor.

A warm tribute to **Mr. F. Renwick,** deputy town clerk of Rotherham and secretary of the Rotherham Branch, was paid at a complimentary dinner given to Mr. Renwick on the occasion of his retirement from the service of the Corporation. Advantage was taken of the occasion to present to Mr. Renwick a wireless set and table. Mr. W. W. Armitage, vice-president of the Association, who was the principal speaker, referred to Mr. Renwick's service of 27 years as honorary secretary of the Branch, and to the magnificent work Mr. Renwick has done for his colleagues during that period.

Mr. Renwick, in reply, thanked his colleagues for the very handsome presentation which had been made to him and for the help he had received from the town clerk and his fellow officials.

MR. F. RENWICK



MR. J. W. MAKINSON

On June 24, after 38 years of service, **John . Makinson,** Preston's G.O.M., retired on perannuation. Behind this bald statement s a great record of personal achievement. r. Makinson was a foundation member of e branch, its first secretary, former president, esent chairman, and throughout the whole years of the branch's existence member the executive.

At a meeting of the local executive on me 15 warm tributes were paid by Messrs. Cartmel, W. Cowperthwaite, and W. B. obinson, and at the final of the bowling urnament on the day of his retirement rther tributes were paid by Mr. H. E. utter, town clerk and president of the reston Branch and by Mr. Lewty (retired ember and donor of the Lewty cup). During e day the warmth of his colleagues' feelings as demonstrated by various presentations d speeches. In the morning Mr. Williams orough surveyor) presented on behalf of e administrative staff of the stores yard a ather week-end case, and on behalf of the iministrative staff of the cleansing depart- ent, two pieces of crystal. In the afternoon r. Cowperthwaite, chairman elect of the ecutive committee, presented a Lloyd loom air and fountain pen from the members the executive, and later the surveyor and puty surveyor presented a walnut drawer binet on behalf of the surveyor's staff. his replies to the many speeches made in s honour, Mr. Makinson, while thanking embers for continued loyalty, stressed the ed for yet further effort and expressed the pe that young members would take an creasing interest in the branch's affairs.

At the quarterly meeting of the Kent ducation Committee last month, the Chairman Ir. W. Rolfe Nottidge) referred to the retire- ent of **Mr. Cholmondeley Harrison,** who d served the committee and its predeces- rs for 44 years. Educated at Highgate School d Jesus, Cambridge, Mr. Harrison was from 92 to 1903 assistant secretary to the county chnical education committee. From 1903 1929 he was head of the elementary and nce then of the higher education depart- ent. He will carry with him into retirement e good wishes of all who have been concerned ith education in Kent and who appreciate e value of the services Mr. Harrison has ndered.—"*Times*," *July* 15, 1936.

OUTINGS

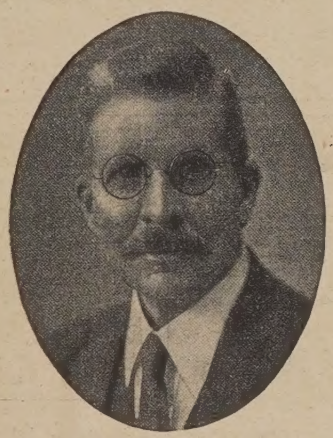
Members of the **Bognor Regis** Branch, ccompanied by a large party of friends, paid visit to Southampton on the occasion of their nnual outing and made a tour of inspection f the passenger accommodation of the R.M.S. Queen Mary." After luncheon at Southamp- n, the members made a motor coach tour and completed the day's outing with a visit to the Portsmouth Hippodrome.

The annual picnic of the **Cardiff** Branch on June 23 was to Minehead and Cleeve Abbey. There was a large company, which included the Deputy Lord Mayor (Councillor W. R. Wills) and other members of the City Council. At lunch, in toasting the Lord Mayor and Corporation of Cardiff, Mr. J. E. N. Davis said that except for the War years there had been an annual picnic since 1891, and that throughout, in bringing members of the City Council and the officers together, the picnic had, he thought, been for the good of the service as well as a most enjoyable institution. At the suggestion of the Deputy Lord Mayor, a telegram conveying loyal greetings and good wishes on his birthday was sent to His Majesty the King.

PRESENTATIONS

On July 10 **Mr. Iori Davies** of the county finance department, Carmarthen, and secretary of the local branch, was presented with a solid oak grandmother's clock, by the officials and staff of the county council, on the occasion of his marriage. The clerk to the county council, Mr. Daniel Johns, M.Sc., barrister-at-law, was in the chair, and made cordial opening remarks. The presentation was made by the county finance clerk, who extended his good wishes to the recipient. Mr. Davies suitably responded.

The Brighton branch paid tribute to the services of its past honorary secretary, **Mr. F. G. Herbert,** on June 24. Presenting Mr. Herbert with a clock and a cheque, Mr. J. G. Drew, deputy town clerk, and president of the branch, said that for over six years Mr.



Mr. H. A. WALLACE

(*See previous page.*)

Herbert had been a member of the executive committee, and for the past four years had not only been their secretary, but their representative on the South Eastern District Committee and the Benevolent and Orphan Fund Committee. Mr. Herbert, was was superintendent of the Brighton Cemetery, was shortly leaving Brighton to take up the post of cemetery superintendent to the City of London Corporation. On behalf of the branch, Mr. Drew congratulated him on this high appointment, and expressed regret that the time had come to say "good-bye."

Mr. Herbert thanked the president and the members for their gifts, and said that while he was glad that he had been able to render some slight service to N.A.L.G.O., his work would have been very difficult but for the ungrudging help of the officers of the branch.

Surbiton is to become a borough in the near future and the staff has contributed the deputy mayor's chain and badge towards the borough regalia. The charter mayor has invited the staff to nominate a lady and gentleman to represent them at the charter luncheon to be held during the celebrations, and at a staff meeting Miss A. O. Withers and Mr. R. Anderson were selected.

SPORT

To bring their respective seasons to a close the football and table tennis sections of the **Poole** Branch organized inter-departmental tournaments. Owing to lack of players the town clerk's department combined with the weights and measures and waterworks departments for the football tournament, and this team eventually became the holders of a cup presented by the branch president, Mr. L. C. Ray (borough treasurer), by beating the borough engineer's A team by 5 goals to 1. Each player in the winning team received a silver medal, presented by the town clerk (Mr. W. Kenyon).

In the table tennis tournament the engineer's team were the winners, beating treasurer's B in the final round by 98 points to 77. At the conclusion of this tournament the annual club tournament was played, resulting in a win by S. E. Parish over M. A. Taylor by 3 games to 2.

On June 24, in the presence of the Mayor of Preston (Councillor E. Ley), the President of the Branch (Mr. H. E. Nutter, town clerk), Mr. Lewty (donor of the cup) and many members, the semi-finals and final of the Bowling Handicap for the Lewty Cup were played off in perfect weather. In the semi-final games J. Bates (scr.) defeated T. Kenyon (rec. 1) by 21-15, and E. Maymon (owes 8) defeated J. Dixon (rec. 6) by 21-13. The final between Bates and Maymon proved an interesting match. Maymon started well, wiping off his arrears before Bates could get going. From then scoring was level until Bates drew away at 12-11 going on to 18-11 with Maymon drawing up to 15 as Bates reached 20, Bates finally winning the match by securing both points on the last end.

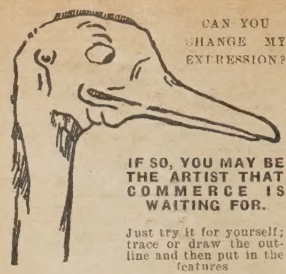
The prizes were presented by the president (Mr. H. E. Nutter), who commented on the very fine sport enjoyed and referred to the Branch's loss on the retirement of the chairman, Mr. J. W. Makinson. The evening concluded with a smoking concert.

Mr. Alderman Frith, chairman of the entertainments and parks committee of the Southend Town Council and president of the Southend Lawn Tennis League, recently opened the **Southend-on-Sea** Branch Lawn Tennis Club's new courts at Victory Path, Chalkwell. Mr. Alderman Frith congratulated the club on having acquired the present courts and said he hoped that in due course it would be his duty and pleasure as president of the Southend Lawn Tennis League to present the league cup to the club. He also hoped that the borough engineer would, when designing the new town hall, make provision for the inclusion of a recreation room for the use of the corporation officers. The Alderman then asked Mrs. Dyer to present the club flag to Mr. Russell, the social secretary.

The sixth annual cricket match between N.A.L.G.O. and the N.U.T. was played on the **Dartmouth** Cricket Ground on June 10. Before the match the party took tea, and Councillor Adams expressed pleasure in attending in the unavoidable absence of the Mayor, and said the annual function was an excellent way of getting to know each other better. Unfortunately, the game had to end as a draw owing to bad light.

MEETING

The half-yearly meeting of the **Monmouthshire County Officers' Branch** was held on July 17. The proceedings opened on a sad note when the President, Dr. J. G. Owen, referred to the sudden death of a member of the Branch, the late Mr. T. G. James, M.A., O.B.E., director of education for Monmouthshire. The report of the delegates to the annual conference was presented by Messrs. B. E. Jenkins and E. A. Stanton, and both were thanked for their interesting account of the proceedings at Aberdeen



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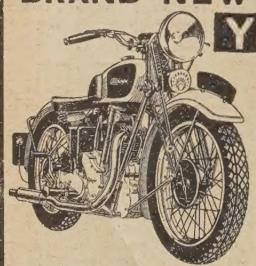

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